ELLE

MAY 2023 £4.99

EXTRA EXTRA

JODIE TURNER-SMITH'S RADICAL GLAMOUR

FASHION'S NEW ENERGY
WARDROBE UPDATES TO LIFT YOU

+

THE FUTURE OF LUXURY
WHAT WE VALUE NOW

SPRING SKINCARE SPECIAL

05>
9 770269 259310
HEARST

VISIT…

LANZAROTE

Caliente.COM

DIOR.COM - 020 7172 0172

DIOR

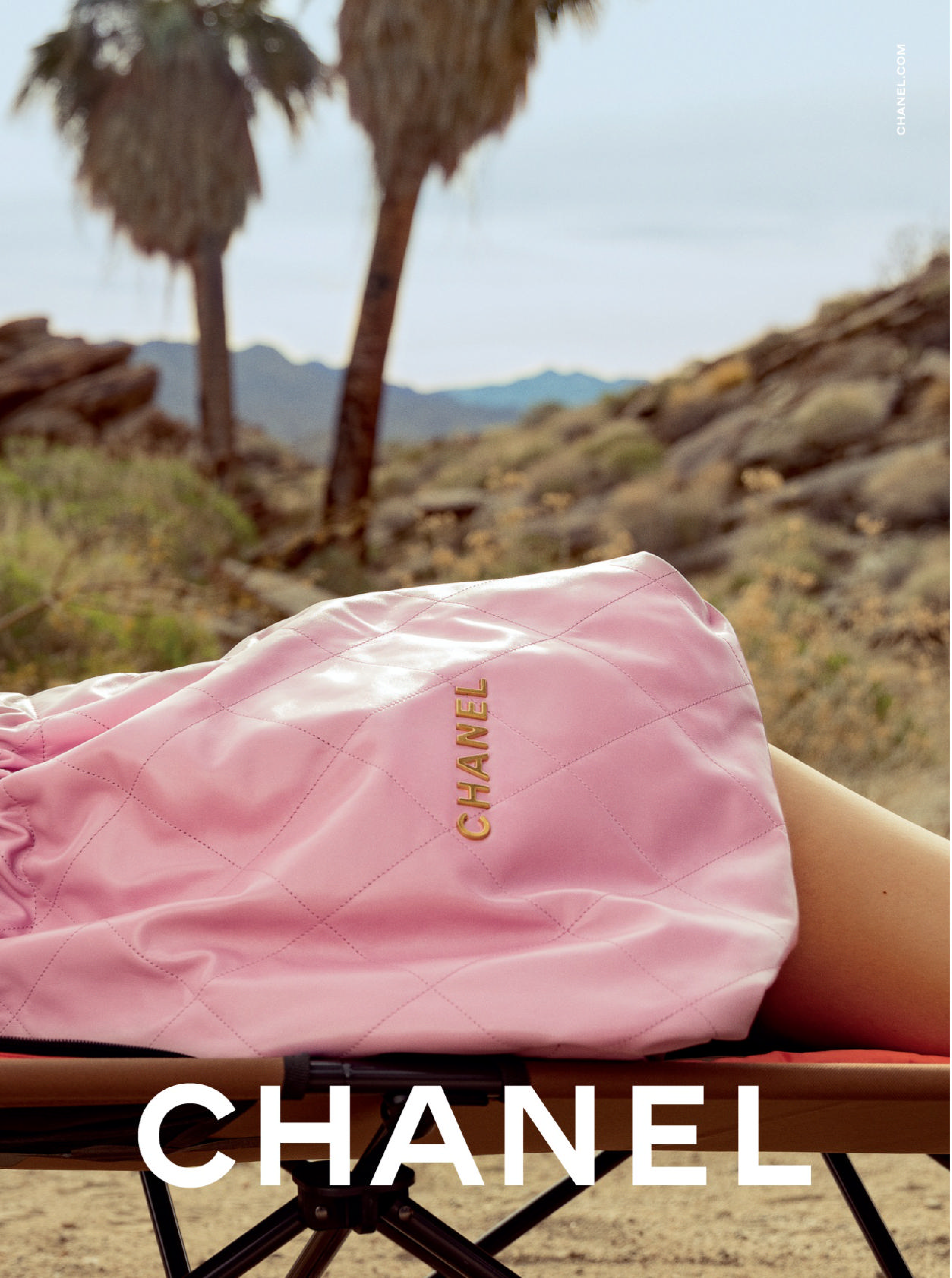
Yayoi Kusama

Creating infinity

LOUIS VUITTON

MARGARET QUALLEY IN
CHANEL
CHANEL 22
CHANEL

CHANEL.COM
CHANEL
CHANEL


CHANEL.COM
CHANEL
CHANEL

FENDI
FENDI

FENDI.COM

Elegance is an attitude
Jennifer Lawrence

THE LONGINES MASTER COLLECTION

LONGINES

LONGINES
AUTOMATIC
SWISS MADE

Longines boutique
411 Oxford Street, London

shop online www.longines.co.uk

cartier.com - 020 3147 4850

Cartier
LA PANTHÈRE
EAU DE PARFUM
Cartier

PAGE 70

EVERY MONTH

23
EDITOR'S LETTER
Kenya Hunt on why we're talking money in this issue

26
THE MOMENT
Jean sequence: *Anna Murphy* takes a look at how luxury denim is deep in our DNA

29
AGENDA
What's hot this month? Find out the things we're wearing, seeing and eating, featuring slip dresses, sequins – and small fish

162
THE FINAL WORD
Victoria Beckham reveals the key components of her personal style

FIRST LOOK

33
Our style and culture picks include: metallic and mermaid muses; beautiful investments; in conversation with Kali Uchis; fashion secures the bag

STYLE + SHOP

48
THE EDIT
Sporty meets posh in the spiciest new athleisure

56
WATCHES
Never miss a beat with this season's coolest timepieces

64
DRESS CODE
We're all going on a summer holiday, and we're going to make it chic. Here's what to pack for your next out-of-office outing

66
JEWELLERY
Silver linings: shine bright like a diamond in cooler-hued pieces

67
THE PIECE
If it ain't broke, don't fix it. Classics are popular for a reason: Ralph Lauren's handbag, for one

READS

82
THE BIG EASY
Artist and model Kesewa Aboah discusses inspirations and her creative process

ON THE COVER

JODIE TURNER-SMITH
DRESS, PRICE ON REQUEST, BODYSUIT, £650, AND CHOKER, £380, ALL GUCCI.
EARRINGS, BRACELET AND RING, ALL PRICE ON REQUEST, GUCCI HIGH JEWELLERY.
PHOTOGRAPH: PETROS.
STYLING: GEORGIA MEDLEY.
HAIR: MARCIA LEE AT ONE REPRESENTS.
MAKE-UP: BERNICIA BOATENG AT AGM TALENT.
NAILS: SABRINA GAYLE AT ARCH THE AGENCY.
STYLIST'S ASSISTANT: GAL KLEIN

contents

MAY 2023

96

THE BRIGHTNESS OF BEING JODIE TURNER-SMITH

Our cover star joins her friend and fellow *Sex Education* actor Ncuti Gatwa to discuss love, fashion and imposter syndrome

110

AT ALL COSTS

Four writers discuss their outlook on money, from home ownership and salaries to feeling financially secure

116

THE MONEY SHOT

It's a loaded question: what makes super-rich people entertaining? *Laura Craik* wonders why there's so much discourse around the 0.01%

120

'YOU WERE ADDED TO THE GROUP'

Get ready for the distinctive ping – big WhatsApp chats are back, and here's why

FASHION

70

BOLDLY GO

The coast is clear: come out from behind the clouds and get dressed for beach days in pieces as bright as the weather

BEAUTY + WELLNESS

126

PILLS, PILLS, PILLS

Stacks of supplements, various vitamins… In a packed market, it can be hard to know which add-ons to choose. The beauty team goes digging

130

RADAR

This month's curated pick of products we love and brands we're following – plus the latest trends to avoid

132

THE EDITORS ON… LITTLE LUXURIES

Find pleasure in the every day

136

10 OF THE BEST… NAIL PRODUCTS

Get a perfect manicure without an expensive trip to the salon

IN + OUT

140

THE INTERIOR LIFE OF…

The Frankie Shop's Gaëlle Dreve shows us her Paris flat

147

INTERIOR TRENDS

It's time to join the dots – the polka is in the spotlight

148

VIVA NAPOLI!

Clementina Jackson visits Naples and finds that the bad-boy city of Italy is the place to go

154

THE NEW LONDON CLASSICS

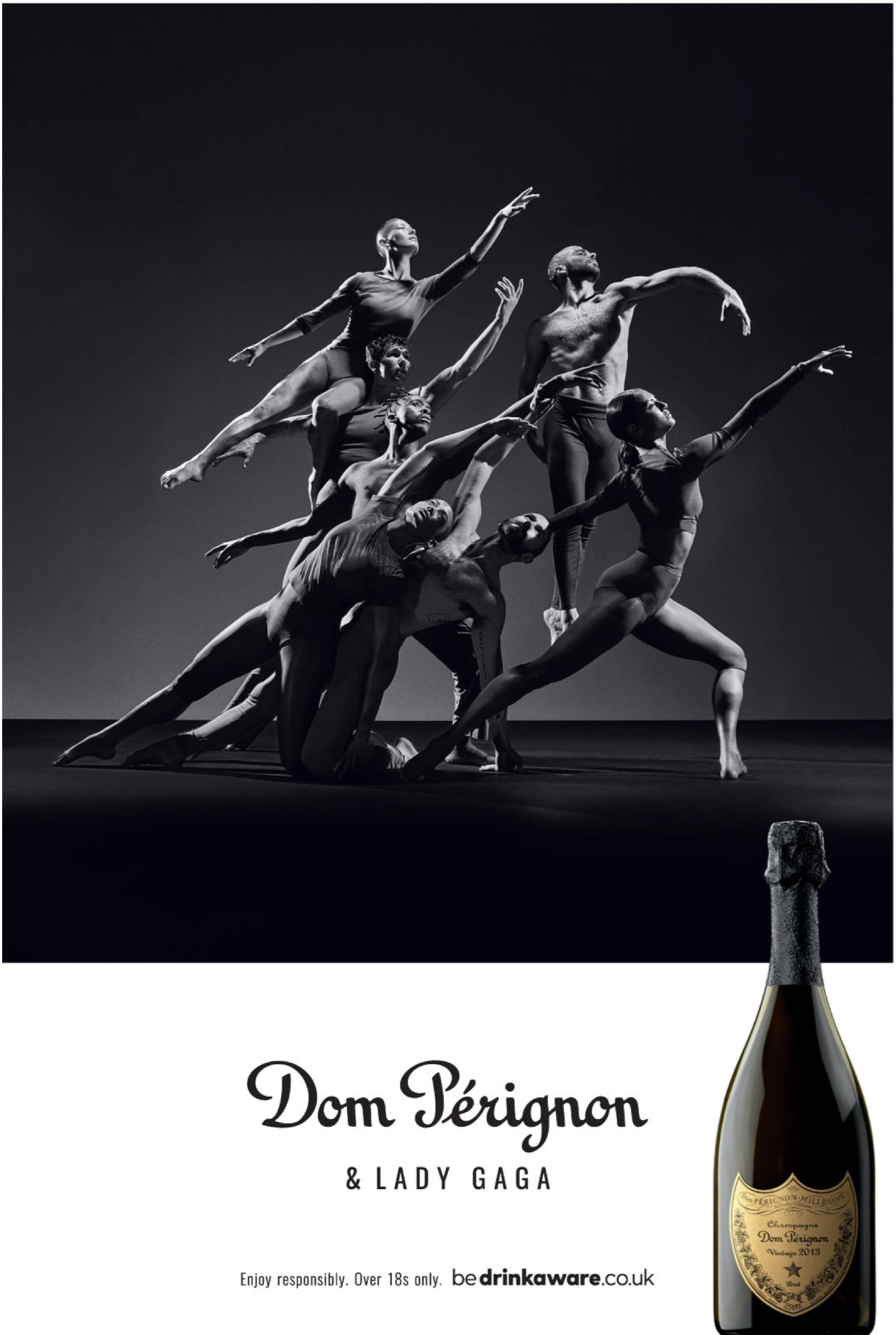
Whether you're treating yourself to a capital staycation or visiting the Big Smoke, here are the best hotels to stay in

PAGE 140

PAGE 82

PHOTOGRAPHS: LAURIE BARTLEY, STEF GALEA, ADELINE MAI

ARTPOP


Dom Pérignon Millésime
Champagne
Dom Pérignon
Vintage 2013
Brut

Dom Pérignon

& LADY GAGA

Enjoy responsibly. Over 18s only. bedrinkaware.co.uk

ELLE

Editor-in-Chief, ELLE and ELLE.com/uk
KENYA HUNT

Luxury Creative Director TOM USHER
Executive Editor ALICE WIGNALL
Executive Editor (Digital) NATASHA BIRD

Editorial Business Director CONNIE OSBORNE
Workflow Director CARLY LEVY

FASHION
Group Luxury Fashion Director AVRIL MAIR
Bookings Director CHLOË RIDLEY
Bookings Editor LAURA NICHOLSON
Bookings Assistant TOM CASEY
Fashion Editors ROSIE ARKELL-PALMER, TILLY WHEATING
Digital Fashion Editor DAISY MURRAY
Senior Fashion Co-ordinator NATALIE ZANNIKOS
Senior Fashion Assistant HOLLY GORST
Fashion Cupboard Manager HANNAH AKANDE
Fashion Assistants GRACE CLARKE, CRYSTALLE COX, GAL KLEIN

FEATURES
Associate Editor/Culture Director LENA DE CASPARIS
Features Director HANNAH NATHANSON
Talent Director LOTTIE LUMSDEN
Deputy Digital Editor KATIE O'MALLEY
Fashion News Editor ENI SUBAIR
Digital News Editor SAKAYNAH HUNTER
Acting Digital News Editor CLEMENTINA JACKSON
Talent Editor OLIVIA BLAIR
Editorial Intern EVE WALKER

Head of Social Media, Luxury AMY BREWSTER

BEAUTY
Group Luxury Beauty Director KATY YOUNG
Beauty Editor JENNIFER GEORGE *Digital Beauty Editor* GEORGE DRIVER
Senior Beauty Assistant MEDINA AZALDIN
Beauty Assistant KATIE WITHINGTON

EDITORIAL PRODUCTION
Group Luxury Chief Sub-Editor/Production Editor DOM PRICE
Deputy Chief Sub-Editors CAITLIN BUTLER, CAMILLA REDMOND
Sub-Editor DINA NAGAPETYANTS

ART AND PICTURES
Art Directors LISA BARLOW-WRIGHT, ZOYA KALEEVA
Acting Art Director LAUREN JONES
Art Editor LEANNE ROBSON
Acting Art Editor EMILY LORD
Designers LILY PICHON FLANNERY, LISIANE DRESSLER,
SONIA RUPRAH
Picture Director SIÂN PARRY
Picture Editor LIZ PEARN
Picture Production Editor GEMMA ROBERTS
Picture Researcher ABI HOLLISTER
Picture Assistant LEILA FREDRICHSEN

CONTRIBUTING FASHION EDITORS
AURELIA DONALDSON, BETH FENTON, SOLANGE FRANKLIN, JENNY KENNEDY, GEORGIA MEDLEY

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS
JESSICA ANDREWS, AJA BARBER, IXTA BELFRAGE, CAMILLE CHARRIÈRE, EMMA DABIRI, AINDREA EMELIFE,
LYNETTE NYLANDER, SHARMADEAN REID, DR EWOMA UKELEGHE, BERNI YATES

For advertising enquiries, call 020 3728 7713 *or email* SHARON.DAVIES-RIDGEWAY@HEARST.CO.UK
For all PR enquiries, email MEDIA@HEARST.CO.UK
For all event enquiries, call 020 7312 4105
For all general enquiries, call 020 7439 5000

Chief Luxury Officer
JACQUELINE EUWE

Executive Assistant to the Chief Luxury Officer NATASHA MANN

Group Brand Director, Luxury SHARON DAVIES-RIDGEWAY
Head of Luxury Fashion CHARLOTTE HOLLANDS
Luxury Fashion Sales Executive BERNARD GARBY
Acting Director of Watches and Jewellery ANNA O'SULLIVAN
Watches and Jewellery Client Manager OLIVIA HORROCKS-BURNS
Watches and Jewellery Manager SHREYAAL HIRANI SHAH

Head of Fashion, Beauty and Luxury SARAH TSIRKAS
Director of Beauty LEE BAILEY
Director of Health and Wellness CHRIS HEALY
Director of Travel DENISE DEGROOT
Head of Finance and Motors MICHELLE PAGLIARULO
Head of Agency Sales, UK and Global BEN CHESTERS
Head of Regional LISA BHATTI
Regional Group Business Director DANIELLE SEWELL
Head of Digital RYAN BUCKLEY

Executive Creative Director MARK McCAFFERTY
Senior Connect Director BETHANY SUTTON
Senior Connect Manager CONNIE FFITCH
Director of Commercial Production WILL VILLE
Branded Content Lead JAMIE CARSON
Art Director, Branded Content MAIREAD GLEESON

Head of Media Planning LUCY PORTER
Senior Media Planning Manager KATHRYN FAIRBAIRN
Production Director JOHN HUGHES *Production Manager* STEPHEN OSBORNE

Chief Consumer Revenue Officer REID HOLLAND
Circulation and Subscriptions Director JAMES HILL
Digital Marketing and CRM Director SEEMA KUMARI
Head of Product and Promotions AOIBHEANN FOLEY
Head of Subscriptions JUSTINE BOUCHER

Head of PR and Communications BEN BOLTON
PR and Communications Manager CRISTINA WYATT

HEARST UK
Chief Executive Officer KATIE VANNECK-SMITH
Chief International Brand Officer MATT HAYES *Chief Commercial Officer* JANE WOLFSON
Chief Commercial Operations Director GIANLUCA ENA
Chief People Officer SURINDER SIMMONS
Digital Development Director MATT HILL
Finance Director, Hearst UK JULIEN LITZELMANN
Business Strategy Director, Hearst UK ROMAIN METRAS
Director of Operations, Hearst UK SOPHIE WILKINSON
Director of PR and Communications ALISON FORTH

HEARST MAGAZINES INTERNATIONAL
President, Hearst Magazines International JONATHAN WRIGHT
Senior Vice-President/Editorial and Brand Director KIM ST CLAIR BODDEN
Executive Director, Luxury Brands ELEONORE MARCHAND

ELLE INTERNATIONAL: A DIVISION OF LAGARDÈRE NEWS
CEO CONSTANCE BENQUÉ
CEO ELLE International Licenses FRANÇOIS CORUZZI
SVP/International Director of ELLE VALÉRIA BESSOLO LLOPIZ

ELLE BRAND MANAGEMENT
Marketing Director MORGANE ROHÉE
Digital & Graphic Design Director MARINE LE BRIS
Database Manager PASCAL IACONO

ELLE INTERNATIONAL PRODUCTIONS
Fashion Editor CHARLOTTE DEFFE *Beauty & Celebrity Editor* VIRGINIE DOLATA

ELLE SYNDICATION
Syndication Director SÉVERINE LAPORTE *Syndication Coordinator* ANA AFONSO
Copyrights Manager KENZA ALLAL

International Ad Sales House: LAGARDÈRE GLOBAL ADVERTISING
SVP/International Advertising JULIAN DANIEL *jdaniel@lagarderenews.com*

ELLE is a member of the Independent Press Standards Organisation (which regulates the UK's magazine and newspaper industry). We abide by the Editors' Code of Practice and are committed to upholding the highest standards of journalism. If you think that we have not met those standards and want to make a complaint please contact complaints@hearst.co.uk or visit hearst.co.uk/hearst-magazines-uk-complaints-procedure. If we are unable to resolve your complaint, or if you would like more information about IPSO or the Editors' Code, contact IPSO on 0300 123 2220 or visit ipso.co.uk. For subscription queries, contact our customer service team at hearstmagazines.co.uk/contact-us or call 01858 438796. Lines open weekdays, 8am-9.30pm; Saturdays, 8am-4pm. Magazine printed by Walstead Roche, St Austell. Distribution by Frontline Ltd, Peterborough (01733 555161)

DOLCE & GABBANA
DOLCEGABBANA.COM

editor's letter

POWER DRESSING
JODIE TURNER-SMITH WEARS GUCCI IN ELLE'S COVER SHOOT (PAGE 96)

PHOTOGRAPHS: PETROS, EDD HORDER. BRALETTE, £1,180, SKIRT, £8,870, NECKLACE (WORN AS BELT), PRICE ON REQUEST, EARRINGS, £610, AND GLASSES, £2,300, ALL GUCCI. BRACELET, £4,140 GUCCI FINE JEWELLERY

At ELLE, it's our job to chronicle the worlds of fashion and beauty, and speak to the cultural and social moment. But when the latter includes a cost-of-living crisis and rising economic inequality, and your brand is a glossy magazine, how do you create a space to talk about both? This issue, we're reflecting on the future of luxury and what it means in a post-pandemic world, at a time when we're reassessing our values and rethinking our relationship with money.

We wanted to have an honest conversation about our ever-evolving relationship with our finances, our attitudes towards pursuing and maintaining wealth, and how this impacts the way we engage with fashion, beauty, culture and the world around us at large.

But I want to equally be open with you about our awareness of privilege – and our knowledge of how one's socioeconomic background, race and gender can impact our financial outlook and world view.

Talk about money gets complicated fast – and even more so, when done within the context of fashion. We know that our ELLE community includes women who span all walks and, in our discussions about our economic lives, we want to create room for all points of view.

With that in mind, we've gathered a range of women with diverse perspectives on what luxury means now. And the consensus is that it is more closely tied to life experience than any material thing – though we give you plenty of beautiful things, too. High fashion is an important aspect of our culture and, just like fine art, you don't necessarily have to buy it to enjoy and be inspired by it.

On page 110, Kieran Yates, Alex Holder, Aja Barber and Sharmaine Lovegrove share their reflections on pay, the property ladder and their economic hopes for the future. Meanwhile, Laura Craik (page 116) examines the modern wave of film and television dedicated to lampooning the one per cent – from *Succession* and *Fleishman Is in Trouble* to *Triangle of Sadness* and *White Lotus* – and why we're all hooked.

Speaking of the silver screen, you'll be seeing a lot of our cover star Jodie Turner-Smith (page 96) this year in her performances on *Sex Education* and *Murder Mystery 2*. Ever since her Hollywood debut in *Queen & Slim*, the British actor has turned the ELLE team into a posse of fangirls, thanks to her choice of roles and personal style. Jodie's a woman who makes glamour look impossibly cool; a gift we witnessed in action on the shoot. She sits down with her co-star and friend Ncuti Gatwa to have a candid and moving conversation about self-love, motherhood, colourism and the life lessons she's learned from conquering imposter syndrome.

Kenya

KENYA HUNT Editor-in-Chief

AVAXHOME -

the biggest Internet portal, providing you various content: brand new books, trending movies, fresh magazines, hot games, recent software, latest music releases.

Unlimited satisfaction one low price
Cheap constant access to piping hot media
Protect your downloadings from Big brother
Safer, than torrent-trackers

18 years of seamless operation and our users' satisfaction

All languages
Brand new content
One site

AVXLIVE.ICU

AvaxHome - Your End Place

We have everything for all of your needs. Just open https://avxlive.icu

SAMSØE SAMSØE

SAMSOE.COM

contributors

PAGE 142

LAUREN COCHRANE

A senior fashion writer at *The Guardian* and author of *The Ten: The Stories Behind the Fashion Classics*, Cochrane has written about everything from the rise of the viral accessory (hello, pigeon bags) to the Spanish footballer Héctor Bellerín: 'They say don't meet your heroes, but he was dreamy.' The one fashion item she couldn't do without is the 'treasured Levi's jeans inherited from my stepmum', and as soon as the weather turns she'll be wearing a pair of shorts from Online Ceramics. She profiles Gaëlle Drevet, founder of The Frankie Shop.

PAGE 82

STEF GALEA

Probably the only fashion photographer with a degree in chemistry, Maltese-born but London-based Galea has shot for brands including Chanel, Dior Beauty and Louis Vuitton. Her work as a visual artist has led to fine-art exhibitions exploring the female form. 'I feel like we aren't confronted by real women enough in the art world.' Her dream job would be 'an editorial project with my family, cousins, aunts and uncles in Fawwara where we spent a lot of time growing up'. For this issue, she shot 'The Big Easy'.

PAGE 98

GEORGIA MEDLEY

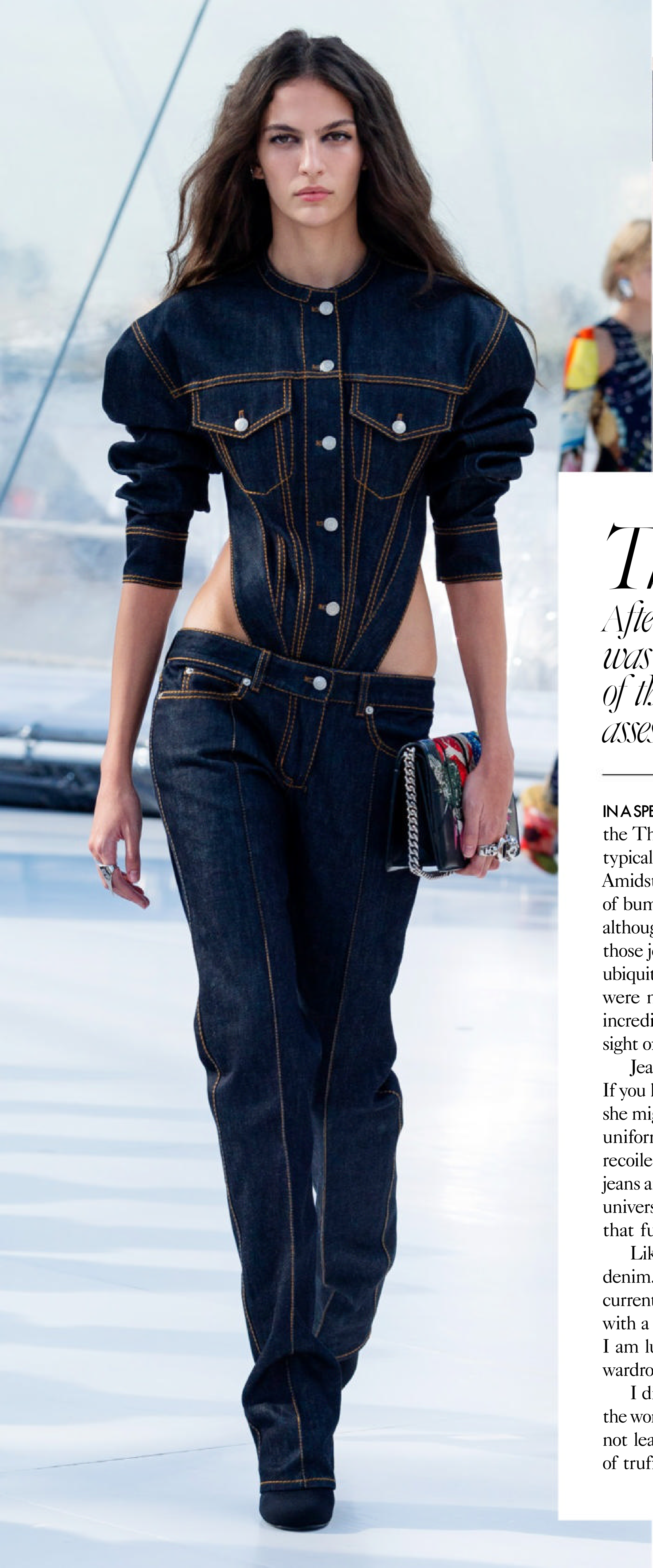
When it comes to styling triumphs, the ELLE contributing editor would have to pick the Oscars moment she had with Jada Pinkett Smith last year. 'Being the first to put Glenn Martens' Jean Paul Gaultier couture collection on the red carpet was something.' This summer, she'll be taking a more understated approach to getting dressed: 'I love the minimalist look. Whether it's a classic white tee and white denim jeans or a white summer dress, you can't go wrong – clean, simple and chic.' Georgia styled Jodie Turner-Smith for our cover.

PAGE 112

KIERAN YATES

For the journalist, broadcaster and editor Kieran Yates, career highlights include profiling musicians such as Erykah Badu, Sampha and Kelela, 'because they remind me that storytelling takes all forms and sharing a bit of their world has helped me think about my own'. When writer's block strikes, she watches Beyoncé's Coachella performance to help her snap out of it. 'For pure motivation, it generally works!' Her debut book, *All The Houses I've Ever Lived In* (out 27 April), is about the housing crisis. She writes about giving up on the idea of a forever home in the feature 'At all costs'.

PHOTOGRAPHS :PETROS, STEPHANIE GALEA, SAM LAWLOR, VICKY GROUT



The denim age

After two years in which the track pant was queen, jeans are back as a pillar of the luxury market. Anna Murphy assesses the wardrobe staple

---

IN A SPECIALLY CONSTRUCTED BUBBLE BUILDING ON THE BANKS OF the Thames last October, Alexander McQueen presented its typically future-facing vision of luxury for spring/summer 2023. Amidst the spectacular gowns and sculptural suiting was a pair of bumster jeans. Nothing that remarkable to modern eyes, although the hip-revealing cutaway denim body with which those jeans were worn would certainly turn heads. Such is the ubiquity of denim in the world of luxury these days that there were nearly 1,500 iterations on the catwalks last season – incredible even by recent standards. No wonder we have lost sight of just what a strange development this is.

Jeans in their workaday origins were the antithesis of luxury. If you had suggested to a 19th-century lady who lunched that she might wear an item of clothing known only as the pseudo-uniform of cowboys and gold-rush miners, she would have recoiled in horror. For her 21st-century equivalent, however, jeans are a pseudo-uniform, too. Indeed, jeans have become so universal across all ages, socio-economic classes and locations that future historians may well label ours the Denim Age.

Like pretty much everyone else I know, I have a thing about denim. I have several pairs of jeans, and I wear them often, my current favourites a vastly outsize style from Raey that I wear with a neat cropped jacket or knit. I often wonder why, when I am lucky enough to have the riches of a fashion director's wardrobe to pick from, it is so often to jeans that I turn.

I didn't during lockdown, needless to say. Like the rest of the world, I found the allure of an elasticated waist hard to resist, not least because I also found the allure of a nightly packet of truffle crisps difficult to resist. But jeans are back in pole

the moment

BLUE NOTES
FROM FAR LEFT: HIP-BARING DENIM AT ALEXANDER McQUEEN SS23; BROOKE SHIELDS IN CALVIN KLEINS IN 1980; DOUBLING UP AT BALLY SS23; HIGH-WAISTED AT MUGLER AW22; CONCEAL AND REVEAL AT KNWLS SS23

position for me, not to mention the rest of the fashion pack.

Why? Because in a funny way, they can feel and look quite dressy after track pants. They can certainly add structure, especially if you avoid stretch styles. The jeans devotee and stylist Angie Smith says the weight of the denim is key. 'It's about wearing something that is going to give you a straighter line,' she says, 'so if you have got a curve, add a bit of straightness to it, and if you have got straightness add a curve.'

As I write, the most expensive pair on Net-A-Porter are black and feather-trimmed from Valentino, at £1,790, with a crystal-embellished blue Mugler pair just behind at £1,780. Ladies who lunch like – and wear – jeans just as much as the rest of us these days.

Even at establishments such as 5 Hertford Street, the upscale London private members' club, jeans are allowed, albeit not those 'with considerable rips or frays'. Though what if those 'considerable rips' come with the imprimatur of Givenchy, which showcased some jeans for AW22 that were, in truth, more rip than jean? I can't help suspecting the management might turn a blind eye.

How peculiar this all is, not least because of the peculiarity of jeans themselves. Here is something that was very precisely tooled for their original user, thanks to their indestructible fabric. It would have been impossible to predict, when jeans were first developed in the second half of the 19th century, the degree to which they would transcend these origins. Yet it's in part this very origin story that has enabled them to do so.

The frontiersmen who wore jeans became, courtesy of Hollywood films, akin to mythological figures in the 20th-century collective consciousness. They were associated with all that was free, wild and – until a more nuanced reading of America's problematic 'founding' story supplanted this one – true.

Next up, Hollywood fixated on a new hero, also free and wild, and at his core – it was always a 'he' at this point – an extrapolation of those earlier ones. Here was a variety of hero only newly invented in society at large: the teenager or young adult, a phenomenon not recognised as existing before the 1950s. Youth became one of the most potent, and commercially leverageable, forces in our society, and remains so to this day. And from the start, its clearest signifier was denim.

We wear denim today because we want to look and feel young, at a point in history when youth has more sociocultural heft than ever before. We also wear denim because ours is a society that purports to rate nonconformity; to admire rebels without a cause. That we should choose to signal our nonconformist status with a piece of clothing that has become, as discussed, the ultimate manifestation of 21st-century conformity only serves to underline some of the inconsistencies that lie at the heart of our culture.

Which brings me back to another contradiction: the retooling of the ultimate everyman item by luxury brands – see those Mugler jeans with crystals, or Gucci's long-ago feather-and-bead-pimped style from spring/summer 1999. The latter was a collection dubbed by Tom Ford, the brand's designer at the time, 'Las Vegas hippie'. A Las Vegas hippie? Yet one more contradiction in terms. Contemporary fashion is all about making a new whole out of apparent opposites, however; about squaring the circle, or indeed circling the square. Denim – especially the luxe variety – offers myriad routes into doing that.

Then there is the idea of jeans as a second skin, which found its fullest expression in Brooke Shields' famous advert for Calvin Klein in 1980, in which she declared, 'Nothing comes between me and my Calvins'. This, in turn, played into the notion that jeans are not merely easy to wear, but almost an extension of who you are. They were invented purely to be functional, regardless of price. And that functionality has, almost two centuries later, extended into every aspect of society.

Luxury today is about specialness, just as it has always been. But it is also about movement, to a degree that it didn't used to be. Luxury can no longer afford only to be a noun. It has to be a verb, too. And denim was the harbinger of that change.

Anna Murphy is the fashion director of The Times. Her book 'Destination Fabulous: Finding Your Way to the Best You Yet' is out now. ◻

PHOTOGRAPHS: IMAXTREE; COURTESY OF THE ADVERTISING ARCHIVES

CLARINS
WITH
HYALURONIC ACID
POWER COMPLEX
CLARINS
PARIS
Hydra-Essentiel [HA²]
Crème désaltérante
Moisturizes and quenches, silky cream
Peaux normales à sèches - Normal to dry skin
CLARINS
PARIS
Hydra-Essentiel [HA²]
Soin de nuit repulpant "anti-soif"
Plumps, moisturizes and quenches, night care
Toutes peaux - All skin types
CLARINS.COM

NEW Hydra-Essentiel [HA²]

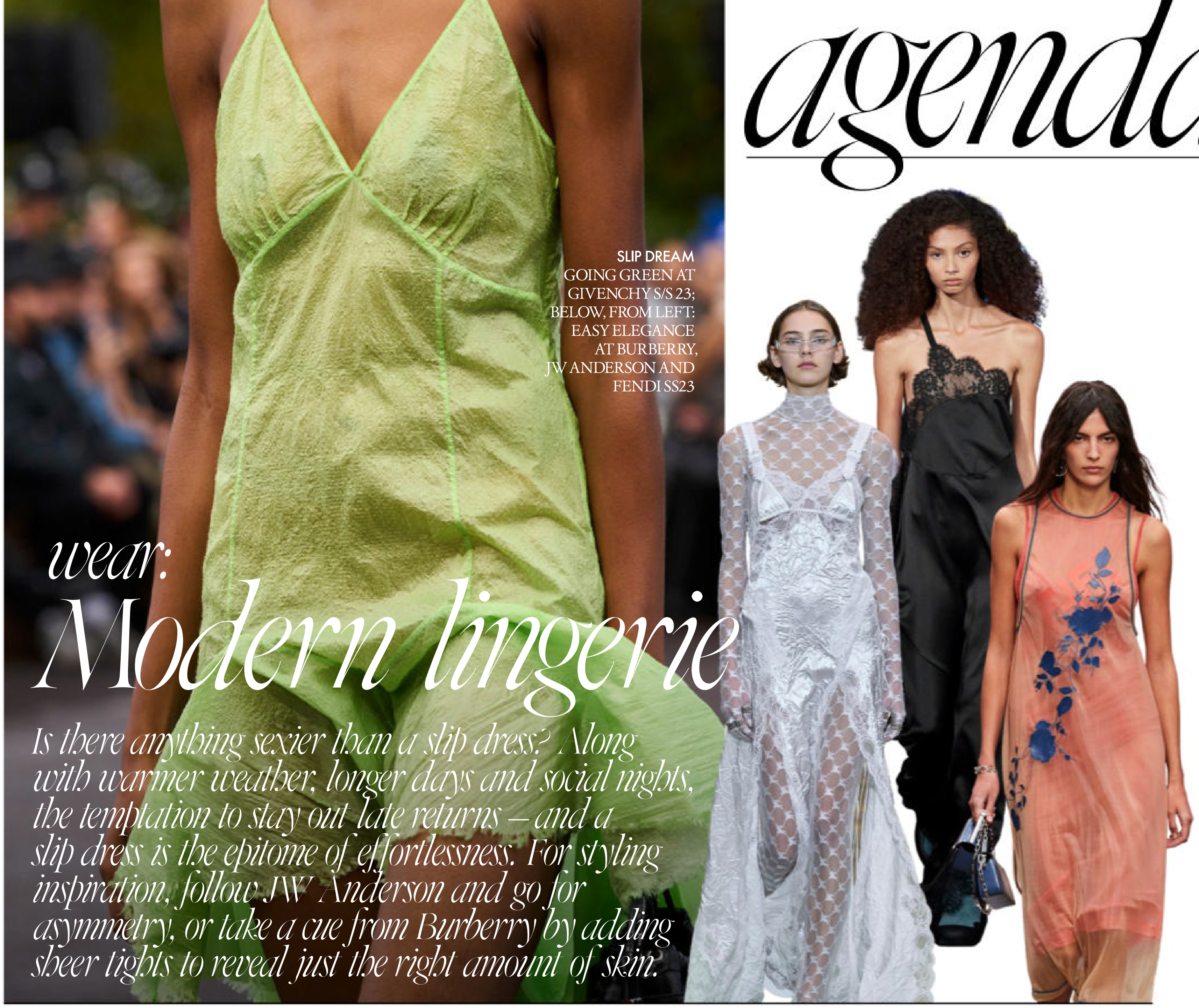
60 SECONDS TO PLUMPER SKIN*

Our duo of hyaluronic acids instantly plumps and hydrates skin, Clarins exclusive organic leaf of life extract boosts your skin's natural hyaluronic acid levels.

Hydrate. Plump. Glow.

*Consumer test - Day cream 107 women after 60 seconds - Night cream 110 women after 60 seconds.

agenda



SLIP DREAM
GOING GREEN AT GIVENCHY S/S 23; BELOW, FROM LEFT: EASY ELEGANCE AT BURBERRY, JW ANDERSON AND FENDI SS23

wear:
Modern lingerie

Is there anything sexier than a slip dress? Along with warmer weather, longer days and social nights, the temptation to stay out late returns – and a slip dress is the epitome of effortlessness. For styling inspiration, follow JW Anderson and go for asymmetry, or take a cue from Burberry by adding sheer tights to reveal just the right amount of skin.

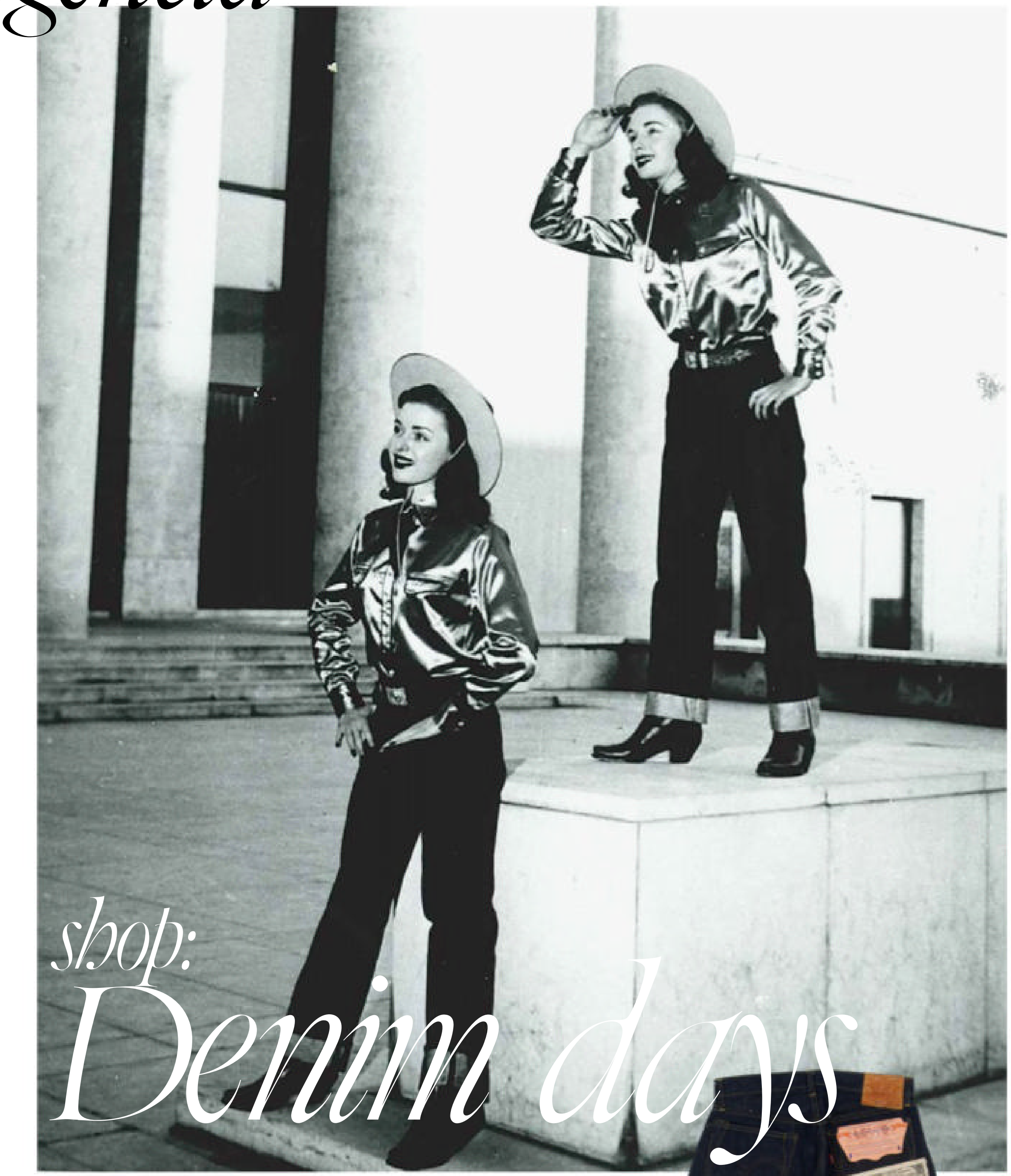
try:
Anchovies

The humble salty fish is having a moment. Once picked off pizzas, they're now appearing on every buzzy menu and stylish Insta-feed, thanks to recent makeovers by Ortiz and Fishwife. Whether enjoyed atop a Rita's martini or on a slice of sourdough, it's their punchy flavour that makes them a winner.

watch:
POLITE SOCIETY

The debut feature film from *We Are Lady Parts* director Nida Manzoor is a mash-up of a sibling-relationship drama and modern-day action film, and follows martial artist-in-training Ria Khan (Priya Kansara) on a mission to save her sister Lena (Ritu Arya) from her impending marriage.

PHOTOGRAPHS: IMAXTREE, COURTESY OF RITA'S, PARISA TAGHIZADEH/©2023 FOCUS FEATURES LLC



shop: Denim days

Cowboys wore them in the Gold Rush and every fashion editor has a pair stashed in their wardrobe – 2023 marks 150 years of the enduring classic Levi's 501s. To celebrate, the brand is introducing two new styles to the 501 jean pool, both inspired by its archive.

go to: Ashish

Worn by icons including Beyoncé, Debbie Harry and Rihanna, fashion designer Ashish Gupta's work will now be celebrated at the William Morris Gallery, east London, in 'Ashish: Fall in Love and Be More Tender' (1 April to 10 September 2023). Wear sequins.

read: ROMANTIC COMEDY

Cancel plans and dive into bestselling author Curtis Sittenfeld's hilarious take on the classic will-they-won't-they storyline. The plot follows comedy writer Sally Milz, a staffer on a *Saturday Night Live*-style TV show, who thinks she's sworn off love – until she meets the handsome, enigmatic musician Noah.

ROMANTIC COMEDY
'Curtis Sittenfeld is in a league of her own' GUARDIAN
'I am obsessed with this book. Warm, wise, extremely funny' ELIZABETH DAY
Sunday Times and New York Times bestseller
CURTIS SITTENFELD

PHOTOGRAPHS: CHRIS MOORE, LEVI STRAUSS & CO. ARCHIVES

Look
Good
Feel
Good
Respira™
GEOX

Spring / Summer 2023
VAGABOND
SHOEMAKERS
Explore **JOLIN** *ballerina flats* at vagabond.com

FIRST LOOK

SIMONE ROCHA
BALLY
NENSI DOJAKA
GUCCI
CHLOÉ
GABRIELA HEARST
GUCCI
DIESEL
SIMONE ROCHA
GUCCI
DIESEL
GABRIELA HEARST
MICHAEL KORS
ALTUZARRA
BEVZA
SACAI

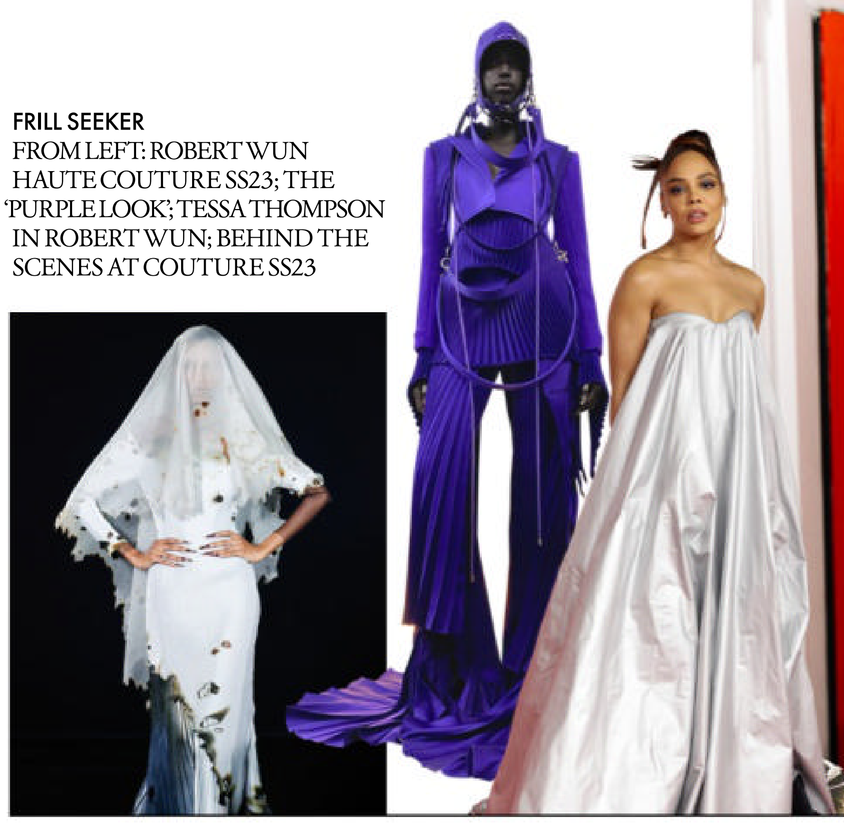
SILVER LININGS

DON'T RESERVE YOUR METALLICS FOR NIGHTS OUT AND THE FESTIVE SEASON. THE SS23 COLLECTIONS, FROM LOEWE TO GUCCI, MADE A CASE FOR WEARING SHIMMER AND SHINE ALL DAY LONG. LAYER A GOLD SLIP UNDER A WHITE BLAZER FOR A SATURDAY BRUNCH, OR WRAP FLORALS IN VOLUMINOUS SILVER FOR AN OUTDOOR WEDDING. THE BRIGHTER THE BETTER

WORDS BY ENI SUBAIR

PHOTOGRAPHS: IMAXTREE

Skechers®
THE UNO
WWW.SKECHERS.CO.UK
AVAILABLE FOR MEN & WOMEN



FRILL SEEKER
FROM LEFT: ROBERT WUN HAUTE COUTURE SS23; THE 'PURPLE LOOK'; TESSA THOMPSON IN ROBERT WUN; BEHIND THE SCENES AT COUTURE SS23

FASHION

Introducing: Robert Wun

Following his wildly successful debut couture show, the designer discusses his love of the imperfect

WORDS BY ENI SUBAIR

A WINE-STAINED DRESS, CIGARETTE-BURNT PUFFER AND BROKEN heels on the catwalk would be a nightmare scenario for most designers. But for his inaugural haute couture show in Paris this past January, London-based Robert Wun relished the idea of embracing imperfection. 'I thought, "What if I examine the very thing that I'm afraid of? How do I take a well-made, silk-chiffon, embroidered garment and flip it on its head?"' says the 31-year-old. The SS23 show earned him industry-wide praise and A-list fans including Lizzo, Tessa Thompson and Solange. Those in the know, meanwhile, have been following his futuristic designs and otherworldly craftsmanship since he launched his eponymous ready-to-wear line in 2014.

Surprisingly, fashion was not his first calling. Wun was born and raised in Hong Kong, and his family thought he'd become a biologist. But while waiting for his mother in a hair salon as a teen, he stumbled across an Alexander McQueen menswear campaign in a magazine; it stopped him in his tracks. After encouragement from his parents, he moved to live with his grandparents in the UK and studied at the London College of Fashion.

It was an ode to his grandmother in Wun's AW21 show that solidified his one-to-watch status. The pièce de résistance – known as 'the purple look' – replicated a look Robert made for his grandmother for his sister's wedding in 2019. A picture of it on Wun's social media caused a sensation – and transformed his business. 'I posted it on Instagram at 3pm and my phone started buzzing non-stop. My grandmother's photo was next to me, and I began crying,' he says, and his eyes well up at the memory. 'It was the moment that changed everything; it all feels like a dream come true.'

Wun's journey to haute couture is a continuation of that dream. Winning the prestigious Andam fashion award in 2022 put him in contact with Chanel's president of global fashion Bruno Pavlovsky, who became Wun's mentor. 'The idea of haute couture never occurred to me; Bruno was the first person to mention it,' says Wun. After a unanimous vote from the Fédération de la Haute Couture et de la Mode to accept Wun onto the tightly controlled couture-week schedule, his show was officially go. 'I was very insecure all the way throughout the process – even the night after the show,' he says. But, even so, he intends to release another couture collection this summer. It will no doubt be as enthusiastically received as the first, which revealed the beauty in what's broken.

PHOTOGRAPHS: DARREL HUNTER, ROBERT WUN, LUCA TOMBILINI, GETTY IMAGES

In conversation: Kali Uchis

The artist is exactly what the world needs now – and, thankfully, she's everywhere

WORDS BY ALESSANDRA CODINHA

KALI UCHIS IS IN LOVE. THIS MAKES SENSE: the 28-year-old's music has always been seductive or, shall we say, vibey, gliding effortlessly between soul, bossa nova, reggaeton and groove. (Put another way, hers are the kind of songs you can imagine kids in 16 or so years learning that they were conceived to.) You likely know *Telepatía*, even if you don't know that you know it. The earworm has been played on Spotify more than 800,000,000 times at last count. When it bounced Bad Bunny and Jhay Cortez's *Dákiti* from the top of Billboard's Hot Latin Songs chart in 2021, it was the first time a song by a female soloist without an

PHOTOGRAPHS: MICAIAH CARTER/AUGUST, GETTY IMAGES

DIVINE FEMININE
KALI UCHIS PERFORMING AT THE OUTSIDE LANDS FESTIVAL. ABOVE, FROM LEFT: UCHIS ON STAGE IN DETROIT; AT THE ROLLING LOUD FESTIVAL IN MIAMI

accompanying act had claimed the number one spot in nearly a decade. Uchis's newest album, the sultry *Red Moon in Venus*, arrives this month, snippets from which are guaranteed to take over your TikTok feed if they haven't already. (*Hasta Cuando* has a spoken-word chorus about dealing with jealous rivals that's prime material for creators to mug along to.)

But back to the warm fuzzies. When we connect, Uchis has just returned from a trip to Australia with her boyfriend and occasional musical partner, the rapper Don Toliver, who was touring there. 'I feel like it's a beautiful thing to travel the world with somebody you love,' she tells me. 'He comes on my tours, and I go on his. That's how we figured out how to do our lives.'

Born Karly-Marina Loaiza, Uchis grew up between Pereira, Colombia, and the suburbs of northern Virginia, USA, as the youngest of five children. Pop stardom was certainly not a given. 'I always loved music, I always loved making things, and I knew in general that my purpose was to create,' she says, 'but I never ever thought that I would be a singer.' She was a saxophonist in her high-school's jazz band. 'My older brother played saxophone, so it was in the house already,' she says with a laugh. 'I wanted to play violin, but my parents weren't about to rent a whole other instrument. I ended up loving it, though.' She also wrote poems, which she turned into lyrics. 'When I was really little, I liked attention. I was the kid who was always like, "Look at me – look, I'm doing this, look, look."'

Soon, music became the first thing she did when she got home, the thing she cared about even if no one would ever get to listen to it. At 17, she was mixing songs on GarageBand and released a lo-fi mixtape, 2012's *Drunken Babble*. And people did listen.

'After I shared that first project, I saw how much it resonated with people,' Uchis says. 'When you see that you can actually make a difference in people's lives by sharing your art, that's what encouraged me to keep going.' Collaborations with Snoop Dogg, Bootsy Collins and Tyler, the Creator followed. As did a 2021 Grammy for Best Dance Recording that she shares with Kaytranada (not to mention rumours of a possible future collab with Ariana Grande). And here we are, nearly 2.5 billion streams later.

Not that the numbers are her priority. 'When you go to the root of how people experience music, it's something we use to connect to each other,' Uchis says. 'It's something people use to lift the frequencies around them.' These days, she says, a lot of popular music is 'toxic, and about toxic topics' – decidedly not the *Red Moon in Venus* vibe. 'I wanted to make music that was more geared toward love – real love,' she says, 'so that's the main mission: just love being the message in its truest form, and letting go of all of that toxic stuff that is very much the norm in today's society.' Some day, she hopes this will be her legacy. 'I want people to take away, from my life, that I never compromised, that I was my truest self, and that my contribution to the world was love.'

Kali Uchis's third studio album, 'Red Moon in Venus', is out now. ◻

A fine idea

The second-hand jewellery market is here to make investing a lot more glamorous

WORDS BY KATIE O'MALLEY

IF YOU'RE LUCKY ENOUGH TO HAVE SOME SPARE CASH, YOU might be tempted to turn it into stocks, savings or even crypto. But how about something with a bit more… sparkle? Not just an accessory, jewellery is the latest currency helping those in the know turn pearls into serious pounds at the click of a button.

Never has the market for fine jewellery been more active or delivered a more eye-watering return on investment (ROI) than in 2023. As the popularity of resale sites like Depop and Vestiaire has shown, it's not how much you spend but how much money you can *make* with your investments that matters. And it's only getting started.

According to Statista forecasts, the world's second-hand fine-jewellery market will grow from an estimated $444m in 2021 to a staggering $1.3bn by 2027. Meanwhile, the growth of interest in *branded* second-hand fine jewellery, from the likes of Van Cleef & Arpels and Cartier, is expected to outpace the fine-jewellery market and reach up to 30% of the total industry by 2025, according to research by BoF and McKinsey. Vestiaire Collective's fashion director and co-founder Sophie Hersan agrees: 'We saw a 19% increase across the jewellery category in 2022 vs 2021, making this a safe investment choice.'

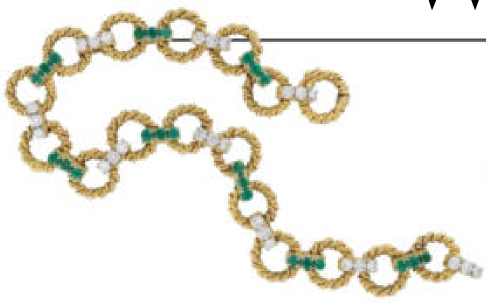
But how can you be sure that, when you buy a piece, you'll get your money back when you sell it on? Susan Caplan, a renowned luxury vintage-jewellery curator who trades in pre-loved Chanel and Dior – including pieces recently worn by Elizabeth Debicki as Princess Diana in *The Crown* – explains: 'The financial investment comes from the rarity of a piece, its provenance, its historical association and quality of craftsmanship.'

Hanushka Toni, co-founder and CEO of luxury resale platform Sellier, is one of the experts helping customers find the biggest ROI opportunities. 'Luxury consumers are turning to pre-loved more as a trusted source of authentic goods,' she says. In the same way an Hermès bag increases in value in the secondary market given the brand's limited-supply sales model, Toni says the retail value of the 2022 Van Cleef & Arpels Alhambra holiday pendant (released to a small number of the brand's loyal customers every year) is almost double its original store price. 'Every time we listed one on Sellier, it sold out within minutes,' she reveals. 'A piece of vintage jewellery will increase in value if in high demand and low supply,' adds Caplan.

So how do you start your investment journey? The experts agree that one of the most profitable designs to invest in is the Rihanna- and Meghan Markle-approved Cartier Love Bracelet. 'We've seen a 30% increase in its value in the past four years in the resale market,' says Toni, who also predicts the Spinelli Kilcollin Halley ring (one of the most requested items on Sellier) and the Mateo initial ring will provide big ROI opportunities in 2023. Meanwhile, Hersan suggests investing in statement pieces from Gucci and Panconesi.

A pension fund may be more orthodox, but an investment you can wear now and spend later? Worth its weight in gold.

WHERE TO FIND TREASURES ONLINE…



1STDIBS
Best for: bidding on Cartier and Boucheron in an auction.

WAVE ANTIQUES
Best for: finding great-value antiques and original old-cut, diamond-set jewellery.

SELLIER KNIGHTSBRIDGE
Best for: searching for in-demand Van Cleef & Arpels pendants.

SUSAN CAPLAN
Best for: sourcing timeless vintage Chanel, Givenchy and Dior pieces.

PLEASE RETURN TO
TIFFANY & CO.
NEW YORK

VESTIAIRE COLLECTIVE
Best for: scooping investments from Tiffany & Co.

PHOTOGRAPH: IMAXTREE

TASTE THE RAINBOW
PUNCHY BRIGHTS, SUNNY SHADES AND PASTELS THAT POP IN LONDON, PARIS AND MILAN

STREET STYLE

HERE COMES THE SUN

We're living in full Technicolor this spring. On the SS23 catwalks, collections from Stella McCartney and Victoria Beckham to Undercover were awash with buoyant brights bold enough to stop traffic. Meanwhile, colour-blocked primary and neon hues were the styling trick of choice on the streets. Think of it as a one-step gateway into the new season, and an easy way to lift a look.

PHOTOGRAPHS: IMAXTREE

STEP INTO SPRING

COMBINING QUALITY DESIGN, INNOVATIVE MATERIALS AND 150 YEARS OF SKILLED CRAFTSMANSHIP, REMONTE'S CAPSULE SHOE COLLECTION PUTS COMFORT FIRST

Discover more at remonte.com and follow @remonte_official

remonte®
by ELLE

FASHION

BAG IT UP

THIS SEASON, HANDBAGS THAT SIGNAL STATUS ARE JOINED BY BAGS THAT SPARK CONVERSATIONS – WHETHER THROUGH SLOGANS, BOLD SHAPES OR THE KNOWING WINK OF A DESIGN THAT DISRUPTS LUXURY CODES

WORDS BY LAUREN COCHRANE

1. THE IRONIC TOTE

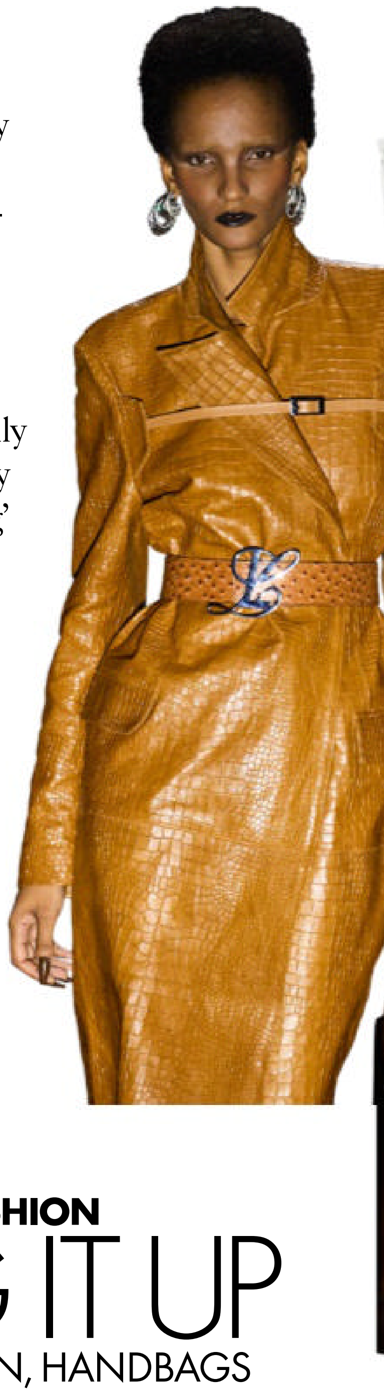
Just like low-rise jeans and crop tops, irony is back, and bags are onboard. See cult favourites like the Life Design shopper – a plastic tote printed with a picture of an Hermès Birkin – made by Xylk Lorena. Or to (literally) spell it out, look to Ironic Boat and Tote. The service allows you to embroider classic LL Bean bags – typically featuring their owner's initials – with very online phrases. 'Short king' and 'EGOTing' are recent examples.

FANTA
ORANGE
BEST SERVED CHILLED

POPOVA SS23

£525, ANYA HINDMARCH

£480, PUPPETS AND PUPPETS



LUAR SS23

£750, JW ANDERSON

£515, COPERNI at MYTHERESA

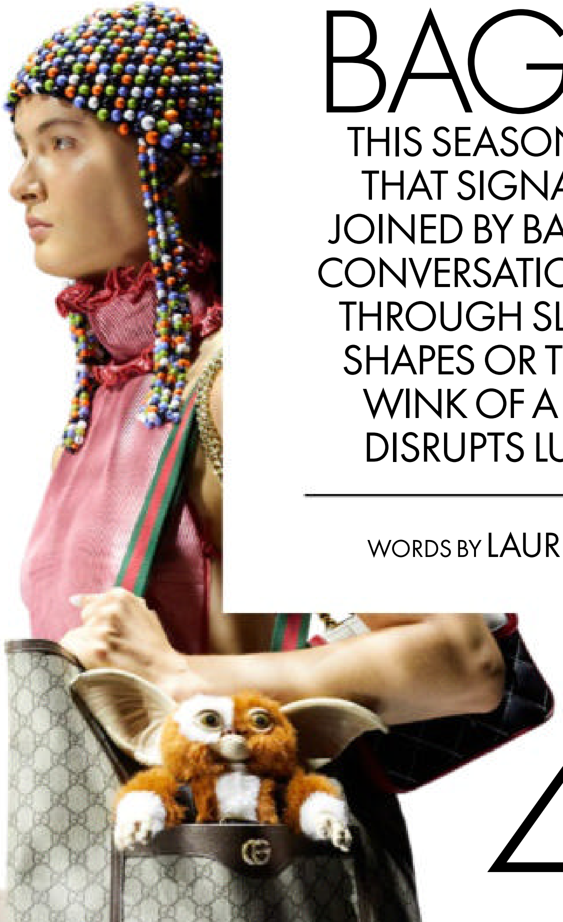
2. THE DISRUPTOR

Getting your hands on an It bag is always sure to raise a smile, but here's the twist: the new versions are more bank-balance friendly. Telfar's affordable totes are the OG, while at Luar, the cult brand by Raul Lopez, the biggest version of the popular Ana bag costs $395 (£325). Or head to Uniqlo: its £15 cross-body has been a surprise hit.

£790, pre-loved GUCCI at SELFRIDGES

3. THE MEME-WORTHY

When JW Anderson's pigeon bag was spotted on the set of *And Just Like That…* it was a sensation. This was less a handbag as a place to store your phone and keys and more of a prop – a take also seen at Louis Vuitton, where models carried bags shaped like dolls' houses, and Gucci, which showed gremlin-topped totes for SS23.



GUCCI SS23

£355, KENZO

£3,300, LOEWE X HOWL'S MOVING CASTLE, available at SELFRIDGES

£3,300, RELUXE at MATCHESFASHION

4. THE HUMBLEBAG

The RealReal has reported that more of us are realising gently used bags have a certain heirloom chic, and will also be around 33% cheaper than 'like new'. A 2010 image of Mary-Kate and her beat-up Kelly is the inspo here, and with celebrities such as Julia Fox toting less-than-box-fresh bags, you'll be in good company.

MARY-KATE OLSEN

PHOTOGRAPHS: IMAXTREE, GETTY IMAGES, RICCARDO LA VALLE

SUBSCRIBE & SAVE 59%

6 MONTHS OF ELLE FOR JUST £9.99

ELLE
MAY 2023 £4.99
EXTRA EXTRA
JODIE
TURNER-SMITH'S
RADICAL GLAMOUR
FASHION'S NEW ENERGY
WARDROBE UPDATES TO LIFT YOU
+
THE FUTURE OF LUXURY
WHAT WE VALUE NOW
SPRING SKINCARE SPECIAL

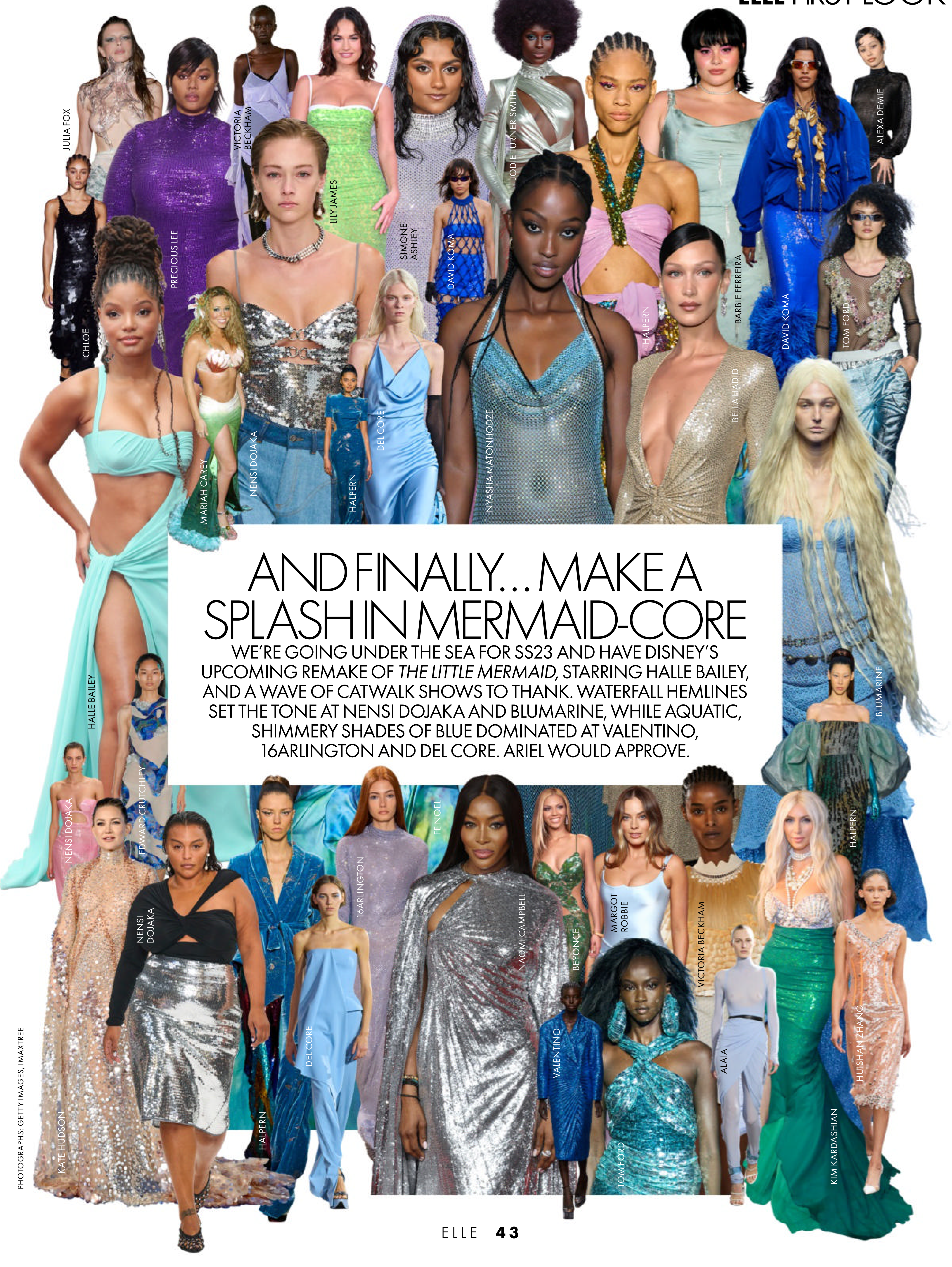
ONLY
~~£4.99~~
£2
PER ISSUE

Instant access

+RECEIVE FREE INSTANT DIGITAL ACCESS TO THE LATEST ISSUE*

SUBSCRIBE TO OUR LOWEST PRICE
HEARSTMAGAZINES.CO.UK/ELLE-MAG
OR CALL 01858 438796 AND QUOTE 1ES12463

TERMS & CONDITIONS: Offer valid for UK subscriptions only. After your first 5 issues, your payments will continue at the rate of £27.99 every 6 months, saving 19%. All orders will be acknowledged, and you will be advised of the start issue within 14 days. Subscriptions may be cancelled by providing 28 days' notice. The normal cost of 10 issues is £69.90, based on a basic cover price of £6.99. *Your free digital instant access link to the latest issue will be included in your confirmation email. Subscriptions may not include promotional items packaged with the magazine. This offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other subscription offer and closes on 3rd May 2023. ‡Calls are charged at your standard network rate. Please check with your network provider for more details. For UK subscription enquiries, please call 01858 438877. For overseas subscription enquiries, please call +44 1858 438877 or visit hearstmagazines.co.uk. For our data policy, visit hearst.co.uk/privacy-notice.


JULIA FOX
VICTORIA BECKHAM
PRECIOUS LEE
LILY JAMES
SIMONE ASHLEY
JODIE TURNER-SMITH
DAVID KOMA
BARBIE FERREIRA
DAVID KOMA
ALEXA DEMIE
TOM FORD
CHLOE
HALPERN
BELLA HADID
MARIAH CAREY
NENSI DOJAKA
HALPERN
DEL CORE
NYASHA MATONHODZE
HALLE BAILEY
BLUMARINE
NENSI DOJAKA
EDWARD CRUTCHLEY
FE NOEL
16ARLINGTON
HALPERN
NENSI DOJAKA
NAOMI CAMPBELL
BEYONCÉ
MARGOT ROBBIE
VICTORIA BECKHAM
DEL CORE
HALPERN
VALENTINO
ALAÏA
HUISHAN ZHANG
TOM FORD
KIM KARDASHIAN
KATE HUDSON

AND FINALLY… MAKE A SPLASH IN MERMAID-CORE

WE'RE GOING UNDER THE SEA FOR SS23 AND HAVE DISNEY'S UPCOMING REMAKE OF *THE LITTLE MERMAID,* STARRING HALLE BAILEY, AND A WAVE OF CATWALK SHOWS TO THANK. WATERFALL HEMLINES SET THE TONE AT NENSI DOJAKA AND BLUMARINE, WHILE AQUATIC, SHIMMERY SHADES OF BLUE DOMINATED AT VALENTINO, 16ARLINGTON AND DEL CORE. ARIEL WOULD APPROVE.

PHOTOGRAPHS: GETTY IMAGES, IMAXTREE

Dune
LONDON

dunelondon.com @dune_london #startwiththeshoes

W

Walpole is the only industry body protecting, promoting and developing the finest and most famous British luxury brands.

Get the latest luxury news, insights and invitations in your inbox each day – sign up to the Daily Luxury Digest here:

DISCOVER MORE AT
THEWALPOLE.CO.UK

ILLUSTRATION BY COLE & SON

ELLE

STYLE + SHOP

Jumper, £35.99, MANGO. Stripy top, £25.99, MANGO. Shorts, £210, RE/DONE. Bracelets, £280 each, SWAROVSKI. Socks, £13 for pack of three, ADIDAS. Trainers, £90, DUNE

THE WARM UP

AS SPRING FINALLY ROLLS IN, WE'RE GETTING LIMBER FOR THE NEW SEASON WITH THE BEST WARDROBE UPDATES FOR SPORTY TYPES, THE BIG REVEAL OF THE NEXT TREND IN JEWELLERY, AND CLASSIC INVESTMENT ACCESSORIES THAT WILL WORK THIS YEAR, NEXT YEAR, ANYWHERE AND EVERYWHERE

WORDS: EVE WALKER. PHOTOGRAPH: LULU MCARDLE. STYLING: GRACE CLARKE

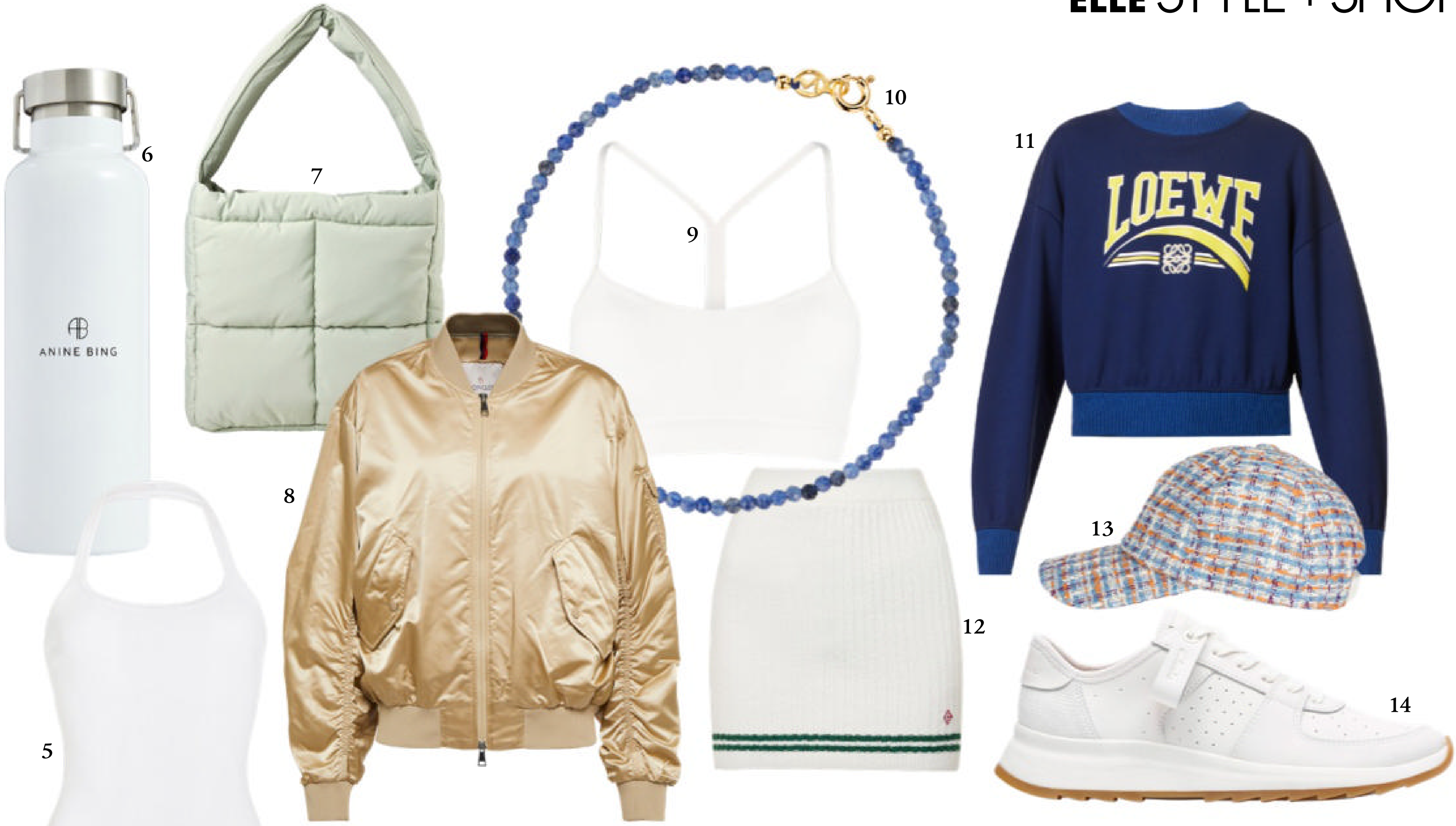
THE EDIT

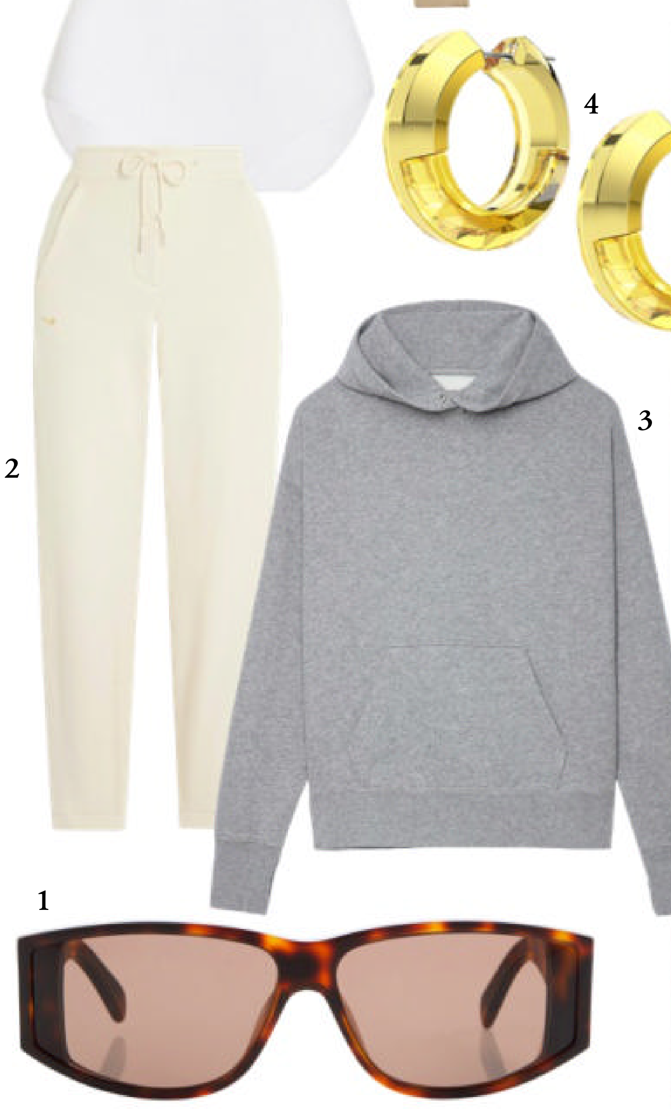
WE MOVE

JUST DON'T CALL IT ATHLEISURE. THIS IS SPORTS LUXE 2.0: RELAXED FABRICS, STREAMLINED SHAPES AND RETRO DETAILING. AND NOT A PAIR OF WASHED-OUT LEGGINGS IN SIGHT...

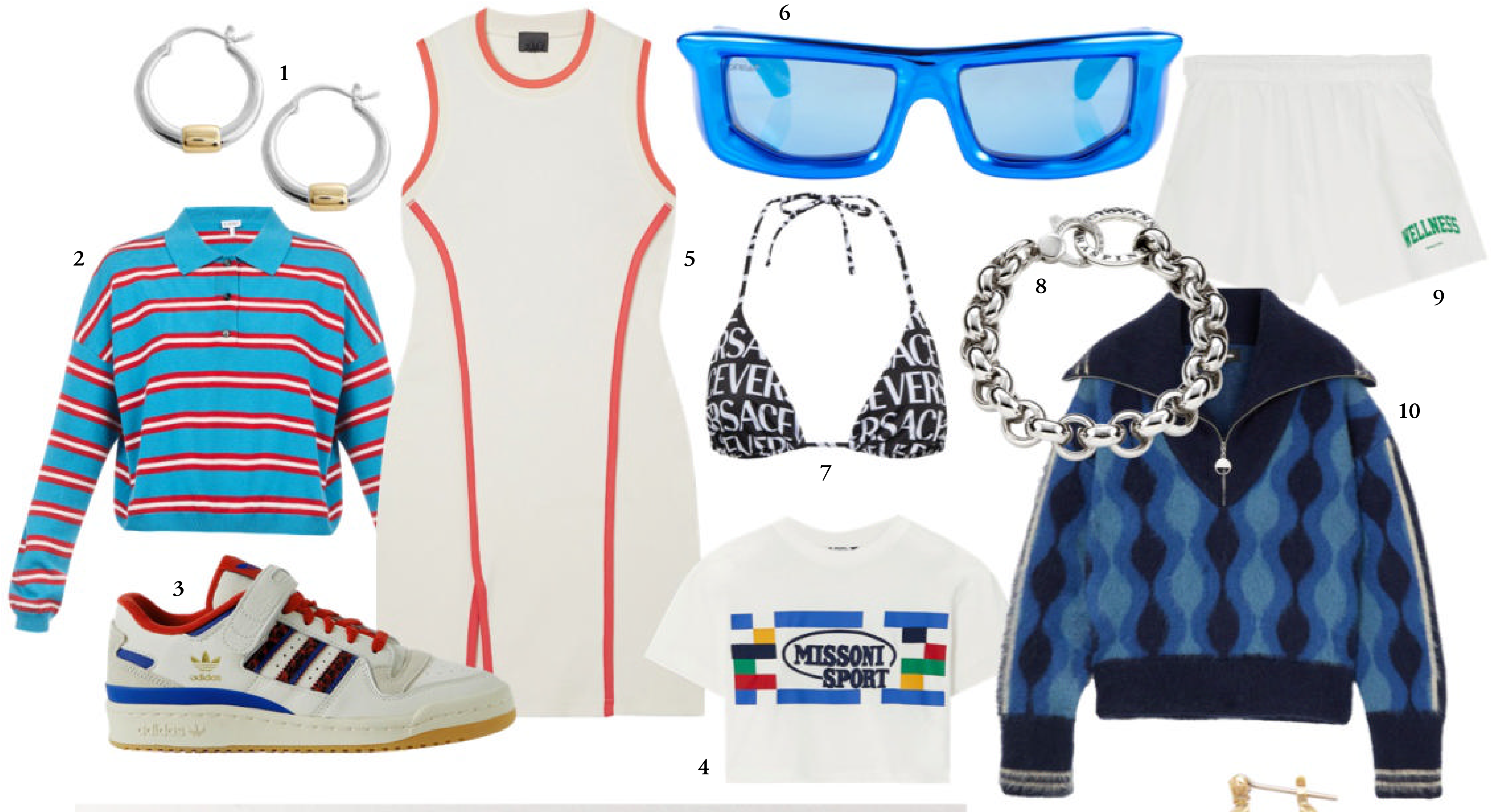
PHOTOGRAPHS LULU McARDLE WORDS EVE WALKER STYLING GRACE CLARKE

THIS PAGE Jacket, £4,780, LORO PIANA. Jumper, £530, ALEX EAGLE. Trousers, £49.99, ADANOLA. Socks, price on request, BURLINGTON SOCKS. Boots, £130, GEOX. OPPOSITE Jacket, £830, HERNO. Shirt, £120, and shorts, £115, both LACOSTE. Sports bra, £19, ARKET. Earrings, price on request, ORELIA. Bag, price on request, LASTFRAME



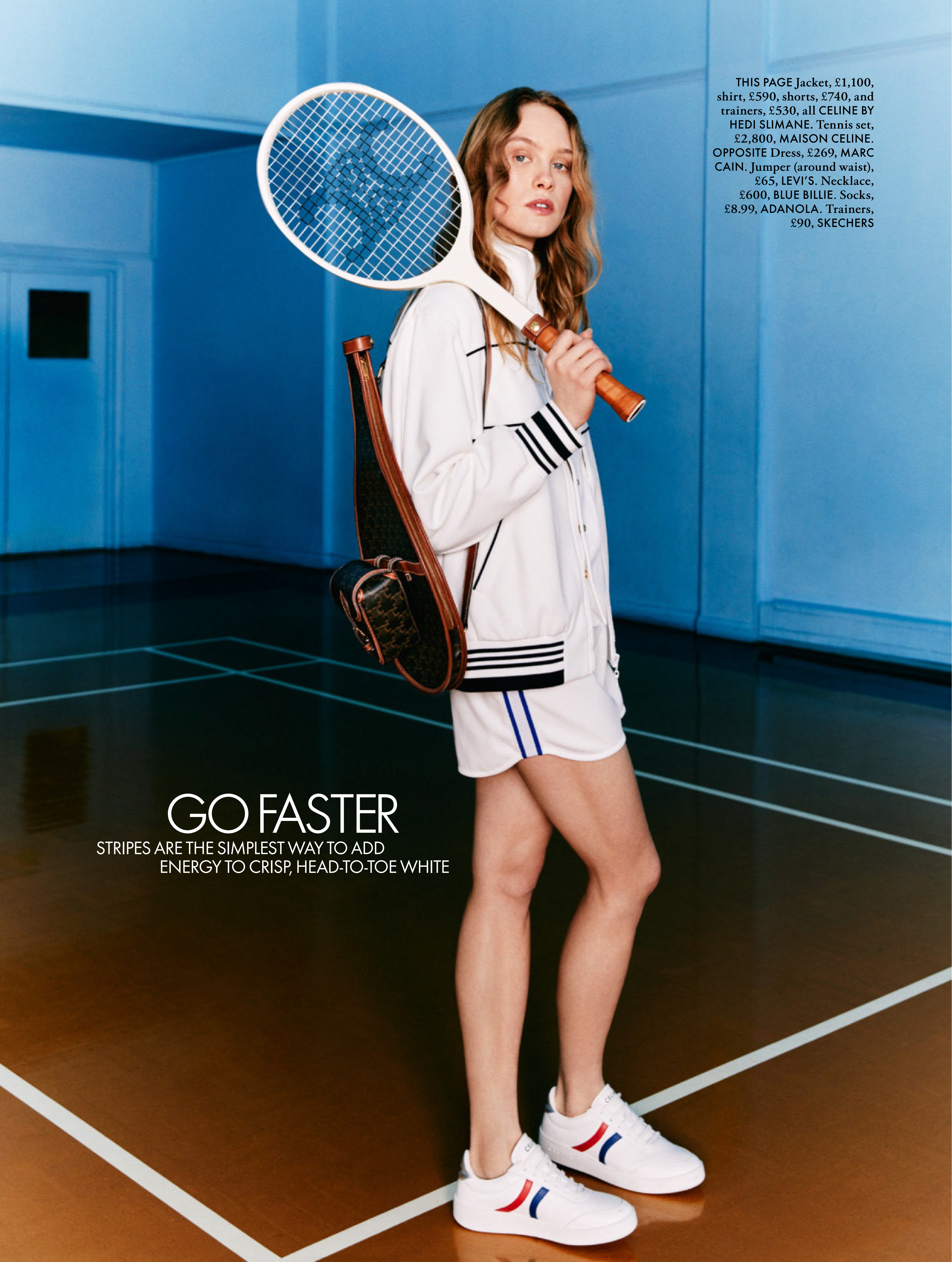


1 Sunglasses, £370, CELINE BY HEDI SLIMANE at MYTHERESA **2** Trousers, £80, NIKE **3** Jumper, £260, ZADIG & VOLTAIRE **4** Earrings, £250, SWAROVSKI **5** Bodysuit, £400, MICHAEL KORS **6** Bottle, £55, ANINE BING **7** Bag, £120, SAMSØE & SAMSØE **8** Jacket, £790, MONCLER **9** Sports bra, £40, LULULEMON **10** Bracelet, £48, MEJURI **11** Jumper, £625, LOEWE at SELFRIDGES **12** Skirt, £350, CASABLANCA **13** Cap, £95, MARC CAIN **14** Trainers, £85, CLARK'S


1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
MISSONI SPORT
WELLNESS

---

1 Earrings, £22.99, MANGO **2** Top, £695, LOEWE **3** Trainers, £90, ADIDAS **4** Top, £120, MISSONI SPORT at NET-A-PORTER **5** Dress, £150, SAUL NASH **6** Sunglasses, £356, OFF-WHITE at MYTHERESA **7** Bikini, £235, VERSACE **8** Bracelet, £310, GIOVANNI RASPINI **9** Shorts, £80, SPORTY & RICH **10** Jumper, £625, AHLUWALIA **11** Shorts, £12.99, ZARA **12** Earrings, £65, LAURA LOMBARDI at MATCHESFASHION **13** Trainers, £300, EMPORIO ARMANI **14** Bag, £1,320, GUCCI



THIS PAGE Jacket, £1,100, shirt, £590, shorts, £740, and trainers, £530, all CELINE BY HEDI SLIMANE. Tennis set, £2,800, MAISON CELINE. OPPOSITE Dress, £269, MARC CAIN. Jumper (around waist), £65, LEVI'S. Necklace, £600, BLUE BILLIE. Socks, £8.99, ADANOLA. Trainers, £90, SKECHERS

GO FASTER

STRIPES ARE THE SIMPLEST WAY TO ADD ENERGY TO CRISP, HEAD-TO-TOE WHITE

THIS PAGE Jacket, £34.99, H&M. Swimsuit, £69, GUESS. Hat, £14.99, ADANOLA. Bracelets, £280 each, SWAROVSKI. **OPPOSITE** Top, £29.50, MARKS & SPENCER. Shorts, £45, GUESS. Socks, £13 for a pack of three, ADIDAS. Trainers, £90, DUNE

HAIR: Richard Phillipart at Gary Represents. **MAKE-UP:** Sogol Razi. **STYLIST'S ASSISTANT:** Jahnavi Sharma. **MODEL:** Kitti Mudele at PRM. With thanks to Charing Cross Sports Club

RAIN OR SHINE

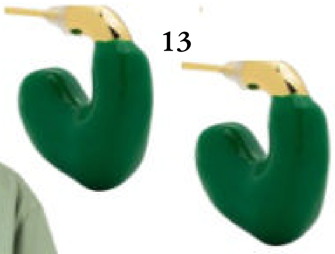
THE REMEDY TO UNPREDICTABLE SUMMER WEATHER? NEUTRAL COATS THAT GO WITH EVERYTHING (EVEN YOUR SWIMSUIT)

8

9

10

11


13

15

14

16

7

12

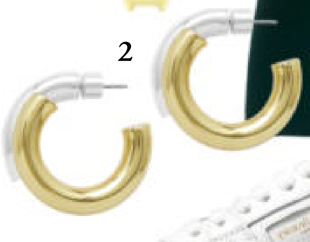
17

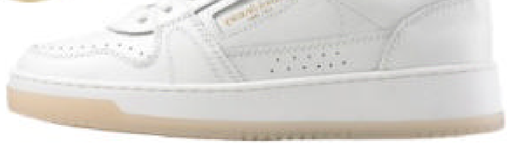
6

5

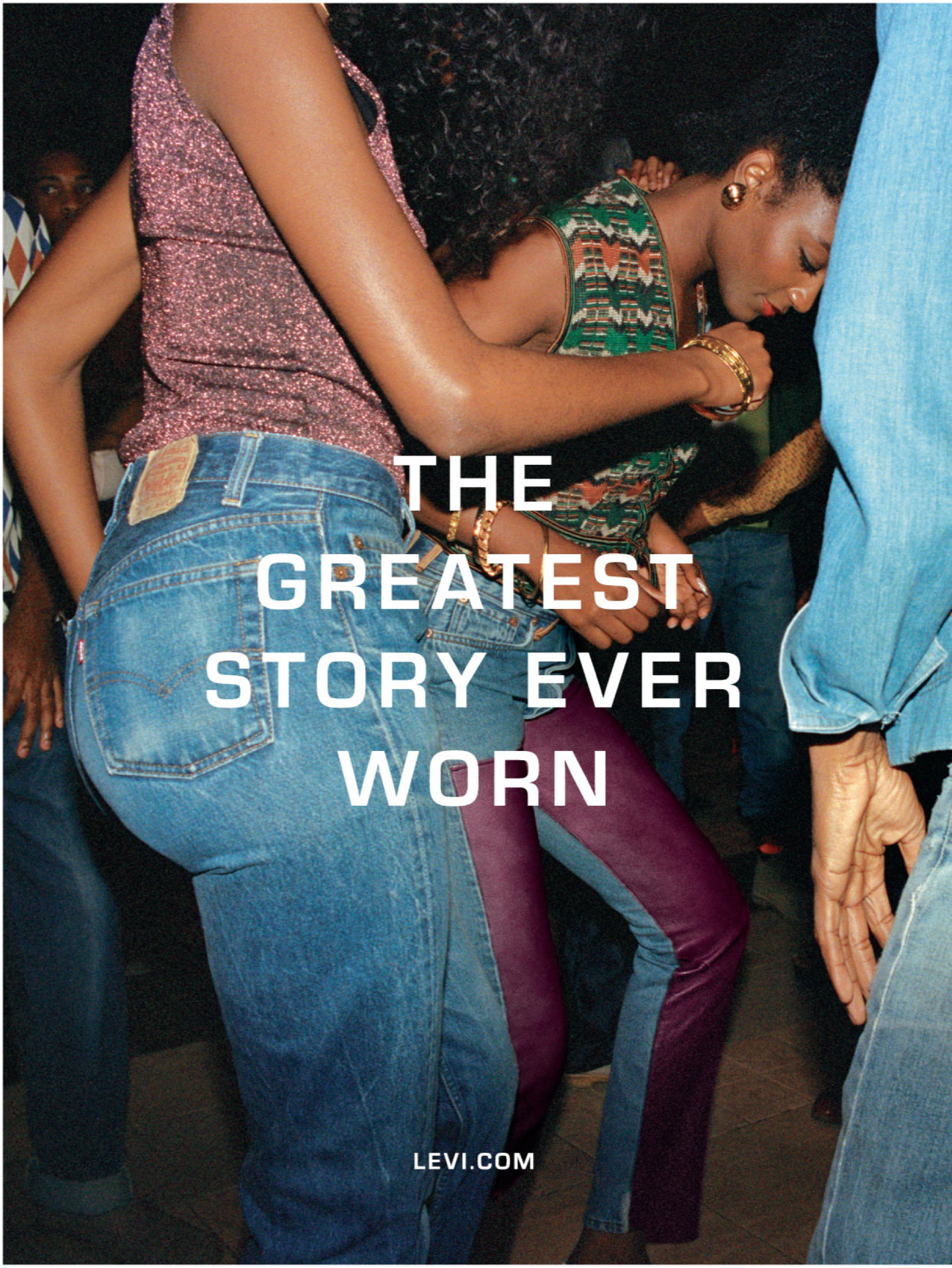
4

3


2


1

1 Trainers, £195, RUSSELL & BROMLEY **2** Earrings, £19, COS **3** Jumper, £575, JW ANDERSON **4** Swimsuit, £115, REINA OLGA at BROWNS **5** Necklace, £125, BRINKER & ELIZA **6** Sunglasses, £410, DIOR **7** T-shirt, £17, ARKET **8** Jacket, £700, GANT **9** Trainers, £89.99, NEW BALANCE **10** Skirt, £1,250, MIU MIU **11** Shirt, £130, RALPH LAUREN at NET-A-PORTER **12** Trainers, £80, DUNE **13** Earrings, £130, ELIOU at BROWNS **14** Bikini, £160, HUNZA G **15** Shorts, £45, GUESS **16** Socks, £20, GANNI **17** Hat, £160, ISABEL MARANT


THE GREATEST STORY EVER WORN
LEVI.COM

Chapter 103

This is the true story of some very precious cargo. Of fishing boats sailing to the states in the 1970s and returning to Kingston with barrels full of blue jeans. Yes, the 501® jean arrived in Jamaica packed alongside rock 'n' roll records, Western films and as much American pop culture as a barrel could hold. But for all that was imported, what came next is the real story. Jamaicans exporting their style back to the world by the metric ton. A revolution that reverberated from the dance halls to every corner of the globe. And that's one influential island in the greatest story ever worn.

501® Levi's® 150th

150 YEARS OF THE 501® JEAN

Watch, £1,300, LONGINES. Shirt, £1,800, and jeans, £890, both MIU MIU at MYTHERESA

WATCHES

RIGHT ON TIME

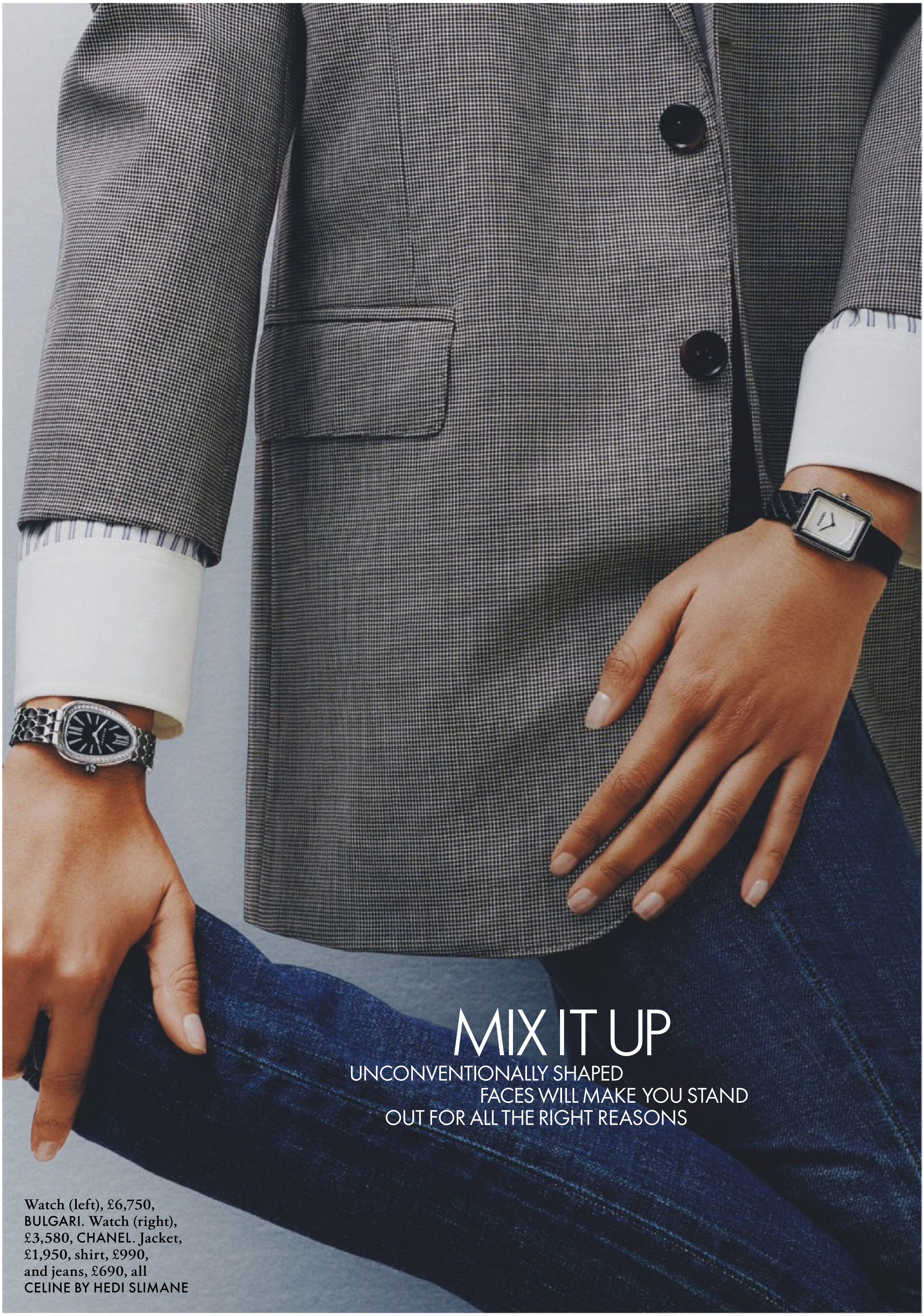
THE SEASON'S STANDOUT WATCHES HAVE FOREVER APPEAL AND MAKE A NATURAL COMPANION TO THE RETURN OF TAILORING. NAME A MORE ICONIC DUO

PHOTOGRAPHS TOBIAS DELCROIX WORDS EVE WALKER STYLING GRACE CLARKE

THE CLASSIC

TO ELEVATE THIS TIMELESS ACCESSORY, STYLE IT WITH A BLAZER THAT GIVES A SUBTLE NOD TO LOGOMANIA

Watch, £1,040, jacket, £2,450, and shirt, £895, all GUCCI



MIX IT UP

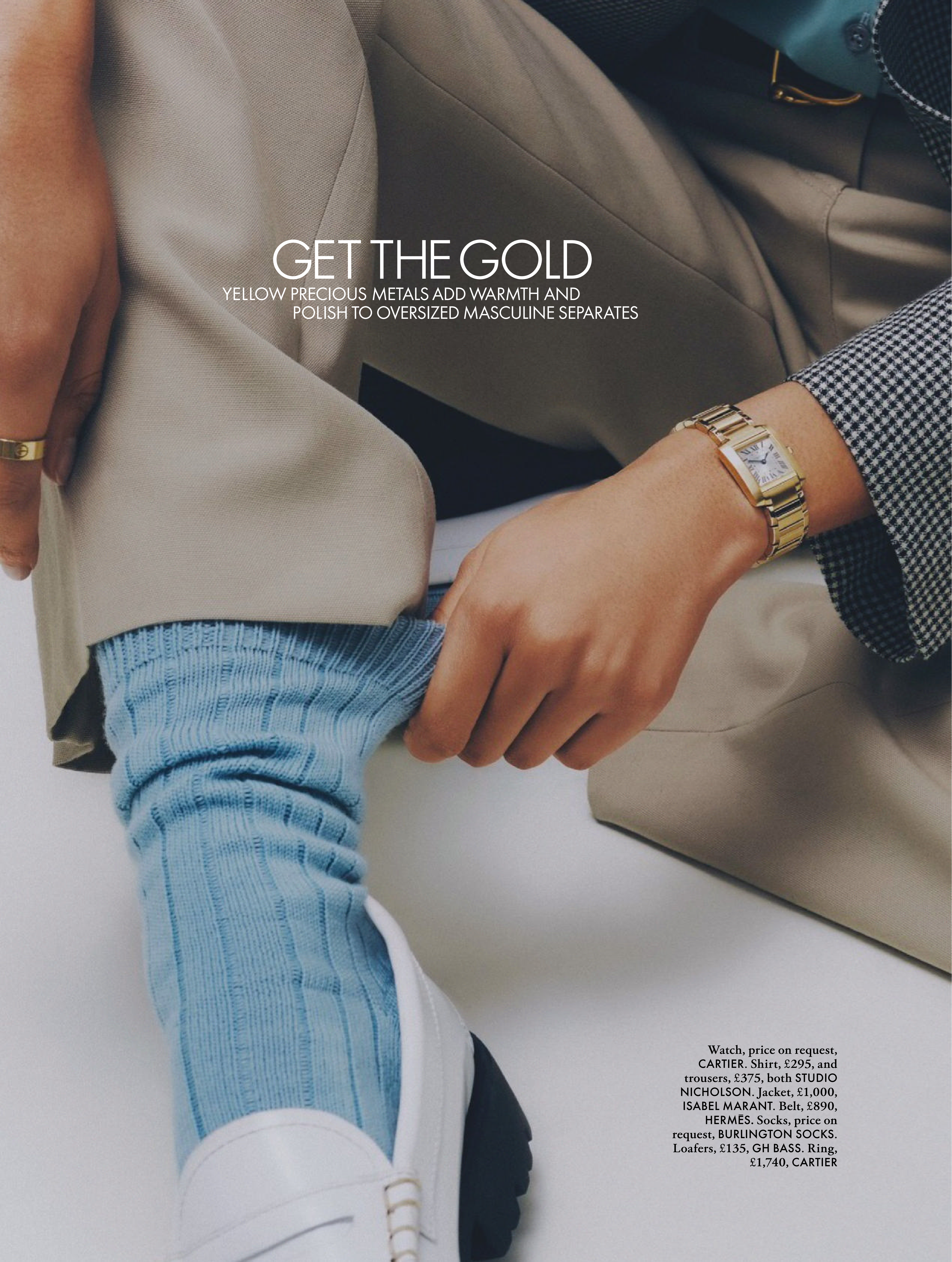
UNCONVENTIONALLY SHAPED FACES WILL MAKE YOU STAND OUT FOR ALL THE RIGHT REASONS

Watch (left), £6,750, BULGARI. Watch (right), £3,580, CHANEL. Jacket, £1,950, shirt, £990, and jeans, £690, all CELINE BY HEDI SLIMANE

GO GLOSSY

THE ICY BRIGHTNESS OF THIS OMEGA PIECE SHINES AGAINST A BOLD, BLUE BACKGROUND

Watch, £5,100, OMEGA. Shirt, £165, and trousers, £215, both THE FRANKIE SHOP. Belt, £400, CELINE BY HEDI SLIMANE



GET THE GOLD

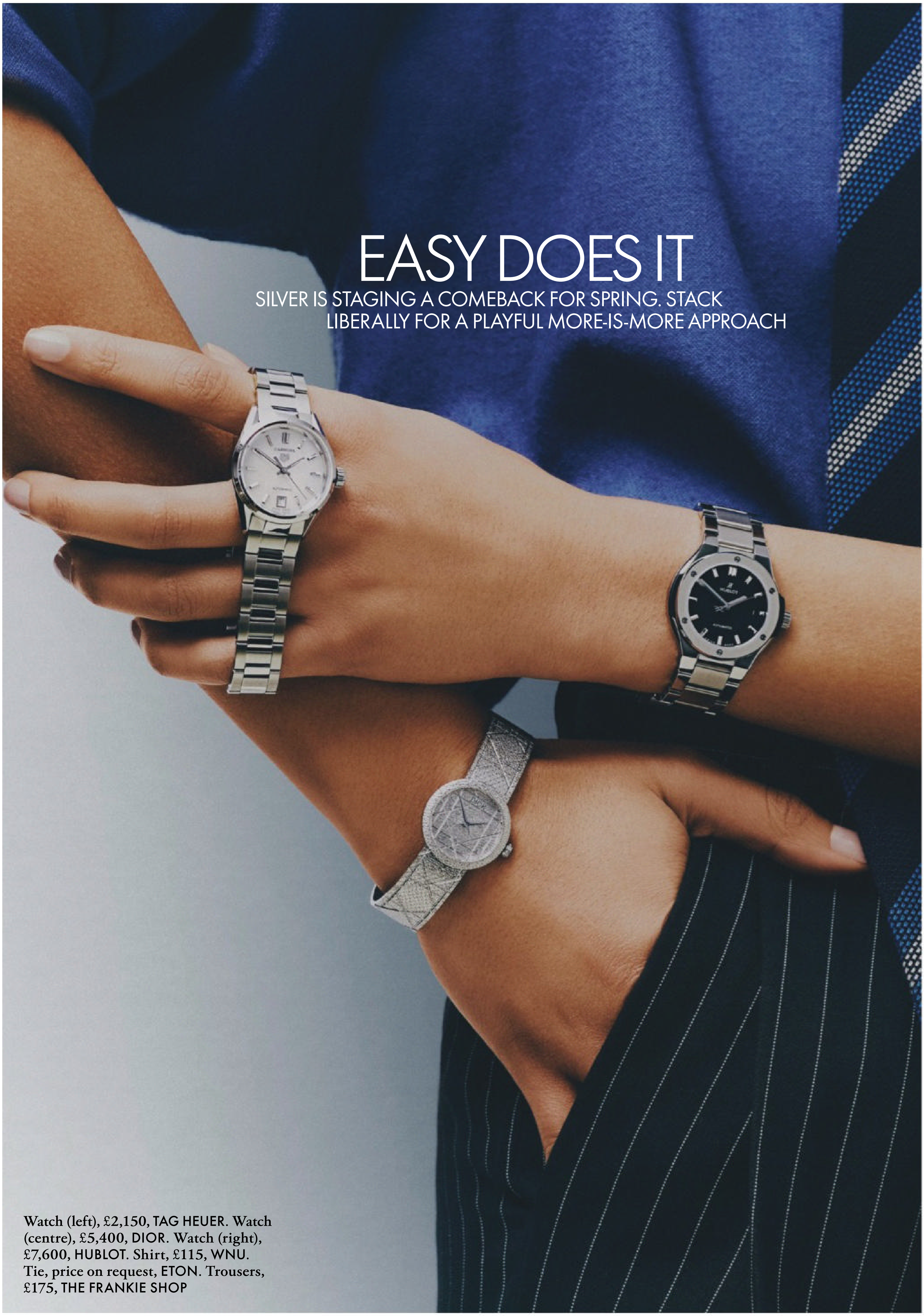
YELLOW PRECIOUS METALS ADD WARMTH AND POLISH TO OVERSIZED MASCULINE SEPARATES

Watch, price on request, CARTIER. Shirt, £295, and trousers, £375, both STUDIO NICHOLSON. Jacket, £1,000, ISABEL MARANT. Belt, £890, HERMĒS. Socks, price on request, BURLINGTON SOCKS. Loafers, £135, GH BASS. Ring, £1,740, CARTIER

LESS IS MORE

KEEP IT MODEST WITH THIS UNDERSTATED TUDOR TIMEPIECE AND A CRISP JACKET FOR AN EFFORTLESSLY COOL LOOK

Watch, £1,970, TUDOR. Shirt, £165, THE FRANKIE SHOP. Jacket, £595, and trousers, £350, both RAEY at MATCHESFASHION. Vest, £450, LOEWE at MATCHESFASHION



EASY DOES IT

SILVER IS STAGING A COMEBACK FOR SPRING. STACK LIBERALLY FOR A PLAYFUL MORE-IS-MORE APPROACH

Watch (left), £2,150, TAG HEUER. Watch (centre), £5,400, DIOR. Watch (right), £7,600, HUBLOT. Shirt, £115, WNU. Tie, price on request, ETON. Trousers, £175, THE FRANKIE SHOP

HAIR: RICHARD PHILLIPART AT GARY REPRESENTS. MAKE-UP: OONAH ANDERSON USING CHARLOTTE TILBURY. NAILS: MADDY AYERS. MODEL: STEPHANIE O AT MILK MODEL MANAGEMENT. STYLIST'S ASSISTANT: HANNAH AKANDE

BOLD TYPE

GO BIG OR GO HOME – THIS STATEMENT PICK ADDS A LITTLE GLITZ TO A CRISP CELINE SHIRT

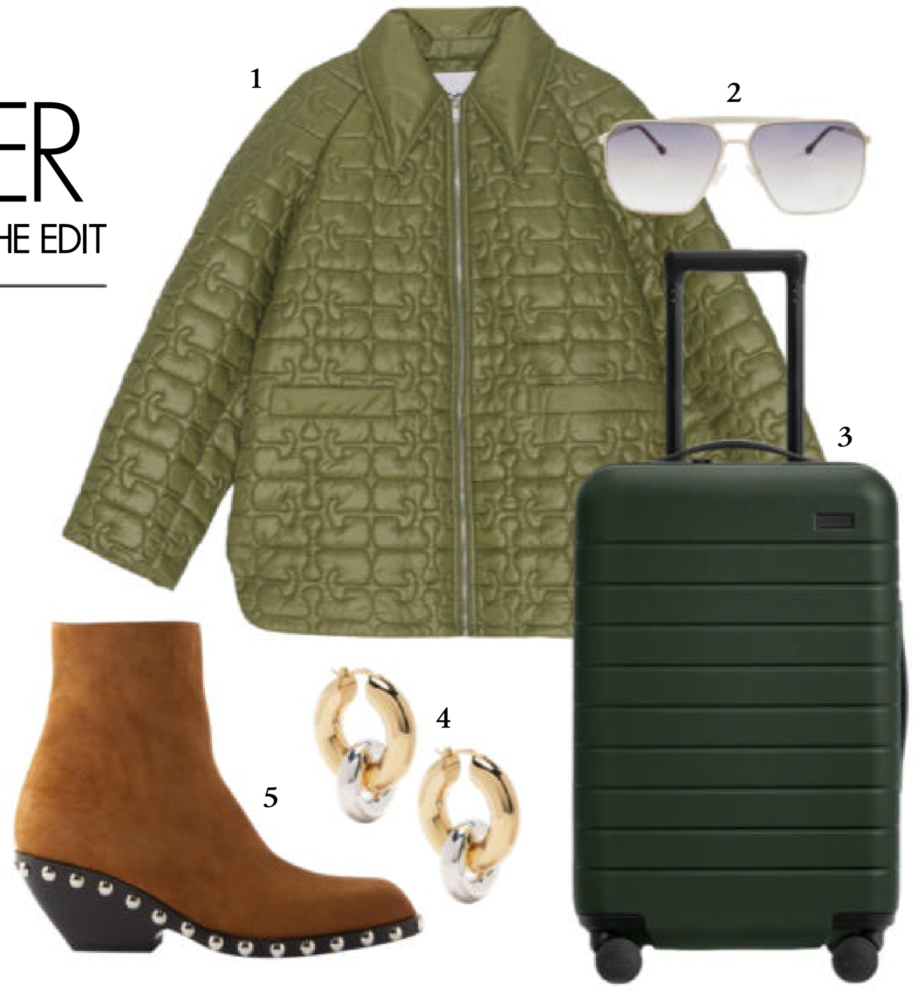
Watch, £7,150, BREITLING. Jacket, £555, MARGARET HOWELL. Shirt (worn underneath), £550, CELINE BY HEDI SLIMANE

DRESS CODE

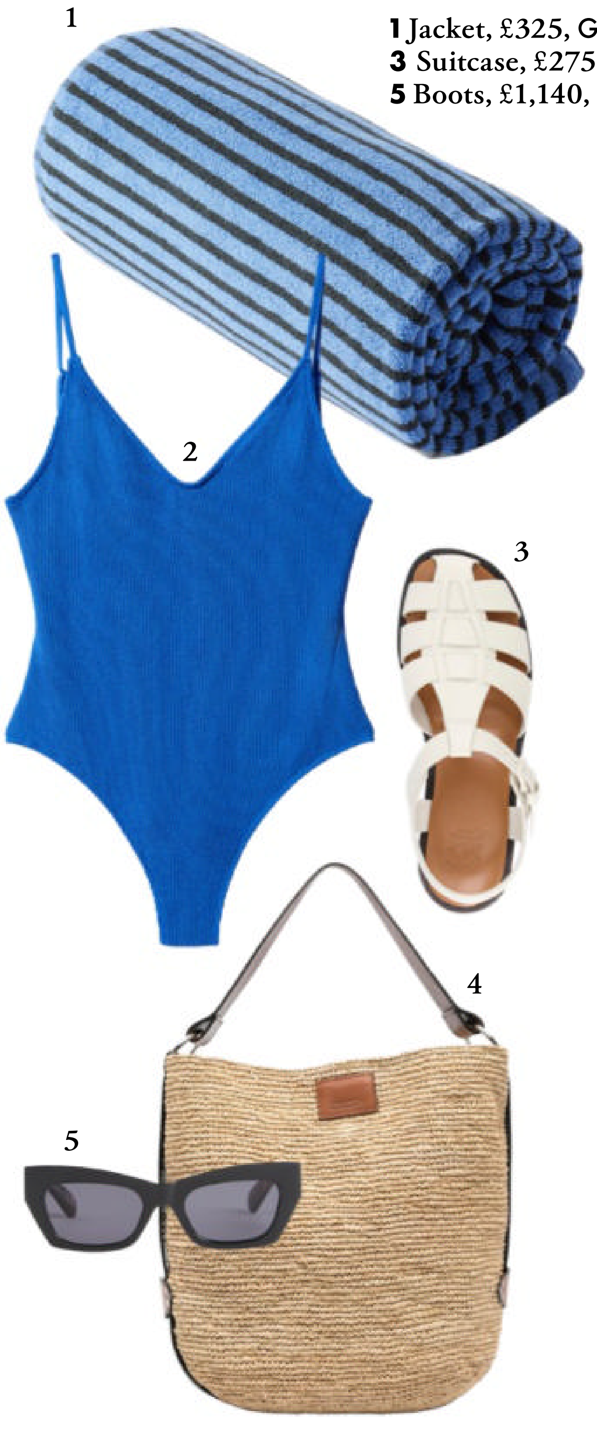
PACKING POWER

THE SECRET TO TRAVELLING IN STYLE IS ALL ABOUT THE EDIT

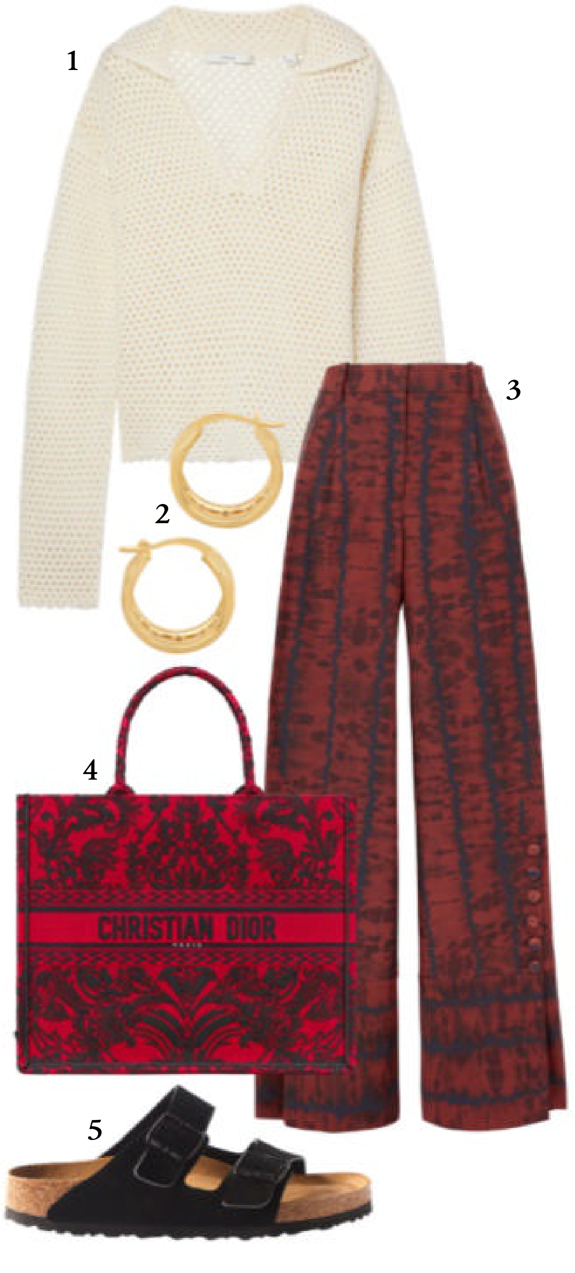
MINIBREAKS DON'T NEED TO MEAN SACRIFICING THE LOOKS you love for practicality. Whether you're going on a country escape, visiting a hut by the seaside or reviving yourself on a breathing retreat, create a capsule wardrobe built around neutral staples (or boldly colourful ones, depending on your preference) that fit neatly into a small suitcase. Ditch the classic airport tracksuit for leather trousers, oversized sunnies and layerable tops you'll wear all weekend long.



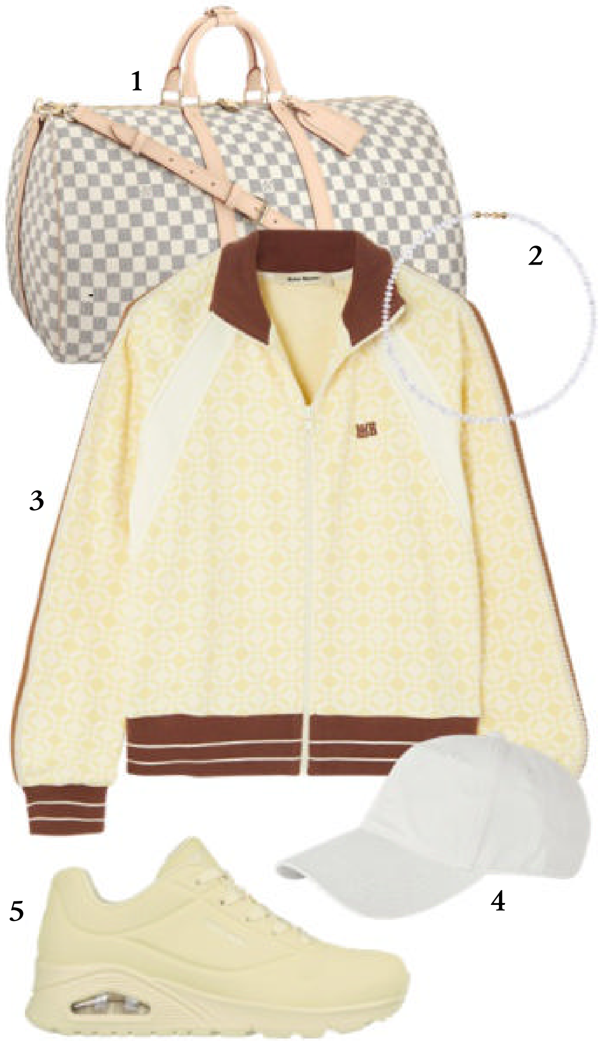
1 Jacket, £325, GANNI **2** Sunglasses, £210, ISABEL MARANT **3** Suitcase, £275, AWAY **4** Earrings, £420, JIL SANDER **5** Boots, £1,140, KHAITE at MATCHESFASHION



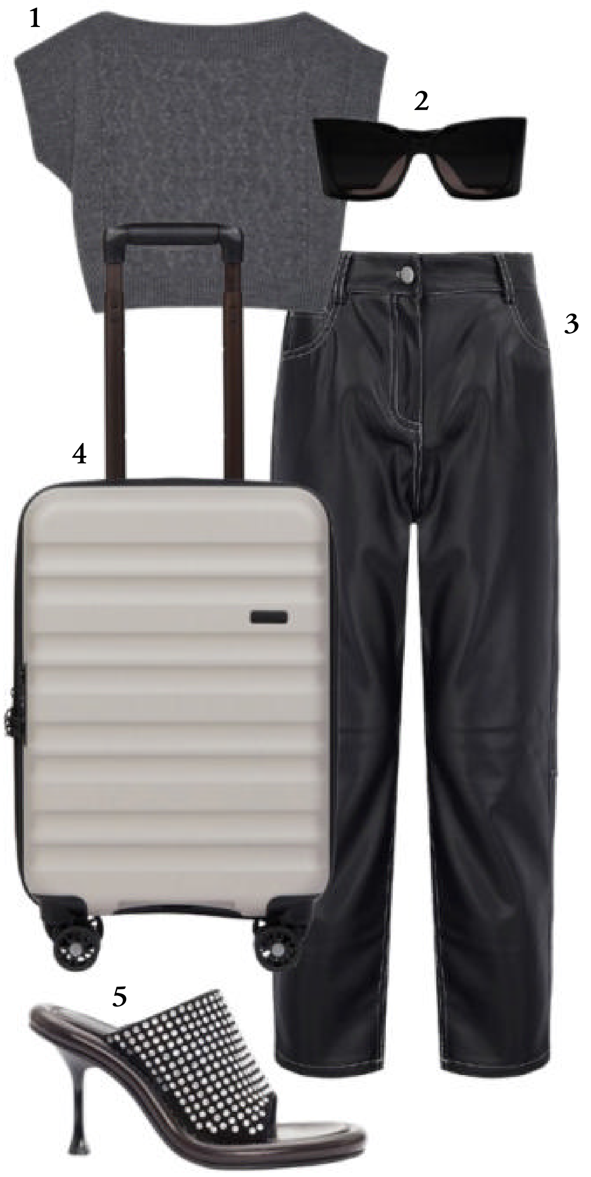
1 Towel, £80, TEKLA **2** Swimsuit, £49.99, MANGO **3** Sandals, price on request, DUNE **4** Bag, £455, ISABEL MARANT at BROWNS **5** Sunglasses, £15, MARKS & SPENCER



1 Top, £425, VINCE **2** Earrings, £395, CELINE BY HEDI SLIMANE **3** Trousers, £975, ALTUZARRA **4** Bag, £2,900, DIOR **5** Sandals, £95, BIRKENSTOCK at MATCHESFASHION



1 Bag, £1,830, LOUIS VUITTON **2** Necklace, £195, BON BON JEWELLERY **3** Jacket, £525, WALES BONNER at NET-A-PORTER **4** Cap, £120, TOTEME **5** Trainers, £90, SKECHERS

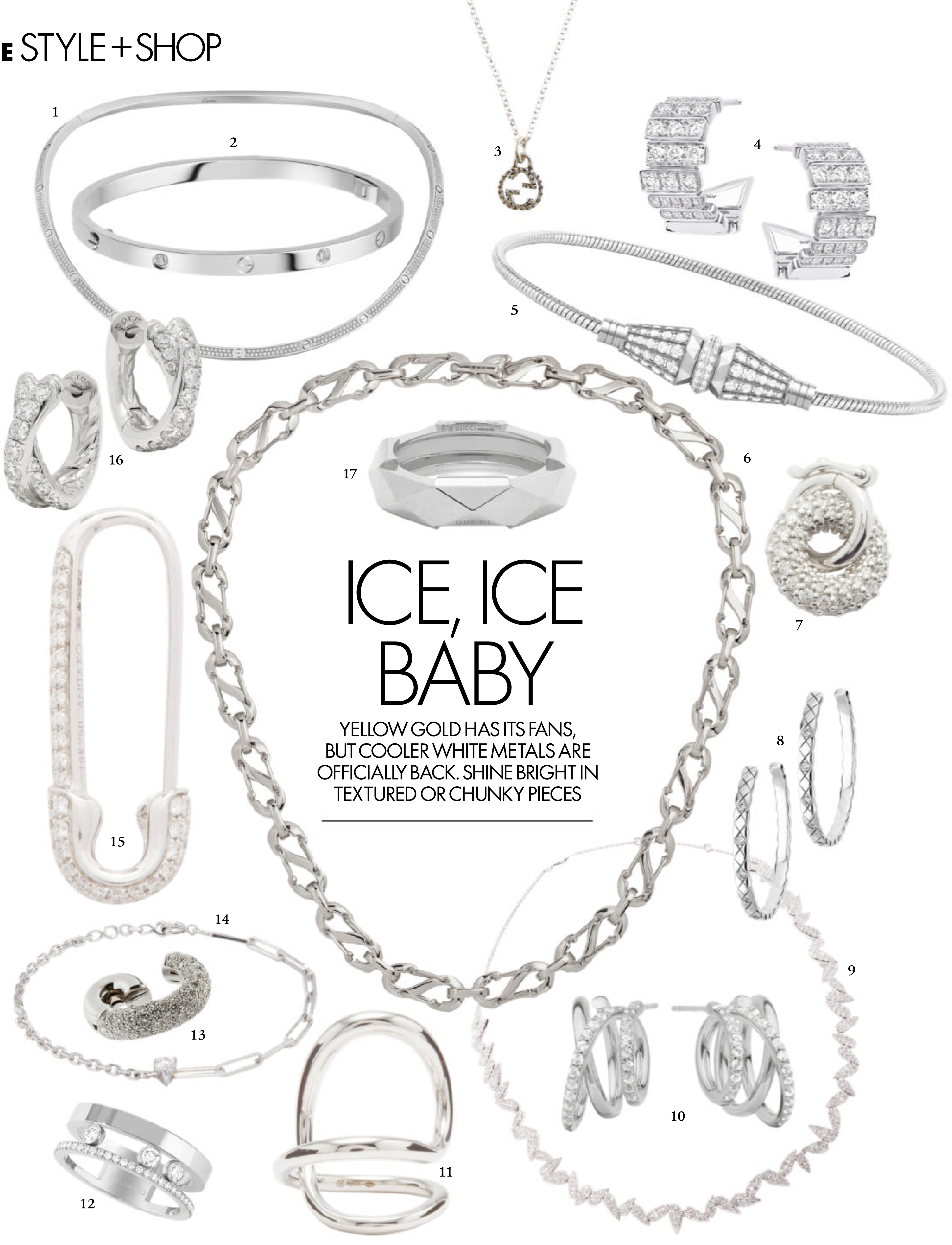


1 Top, £490, MOLLY GODDARD **2** Sunglasses, £655, SAINT LAURENT BY ANTHONY VACCARELLO **3** Trousers, £40, NEXT **4** Suitcase, £159, ANTLER **5** Mules, £695, JW ANDERSON

PHOTOGRAPHS: GETTY IMAGES

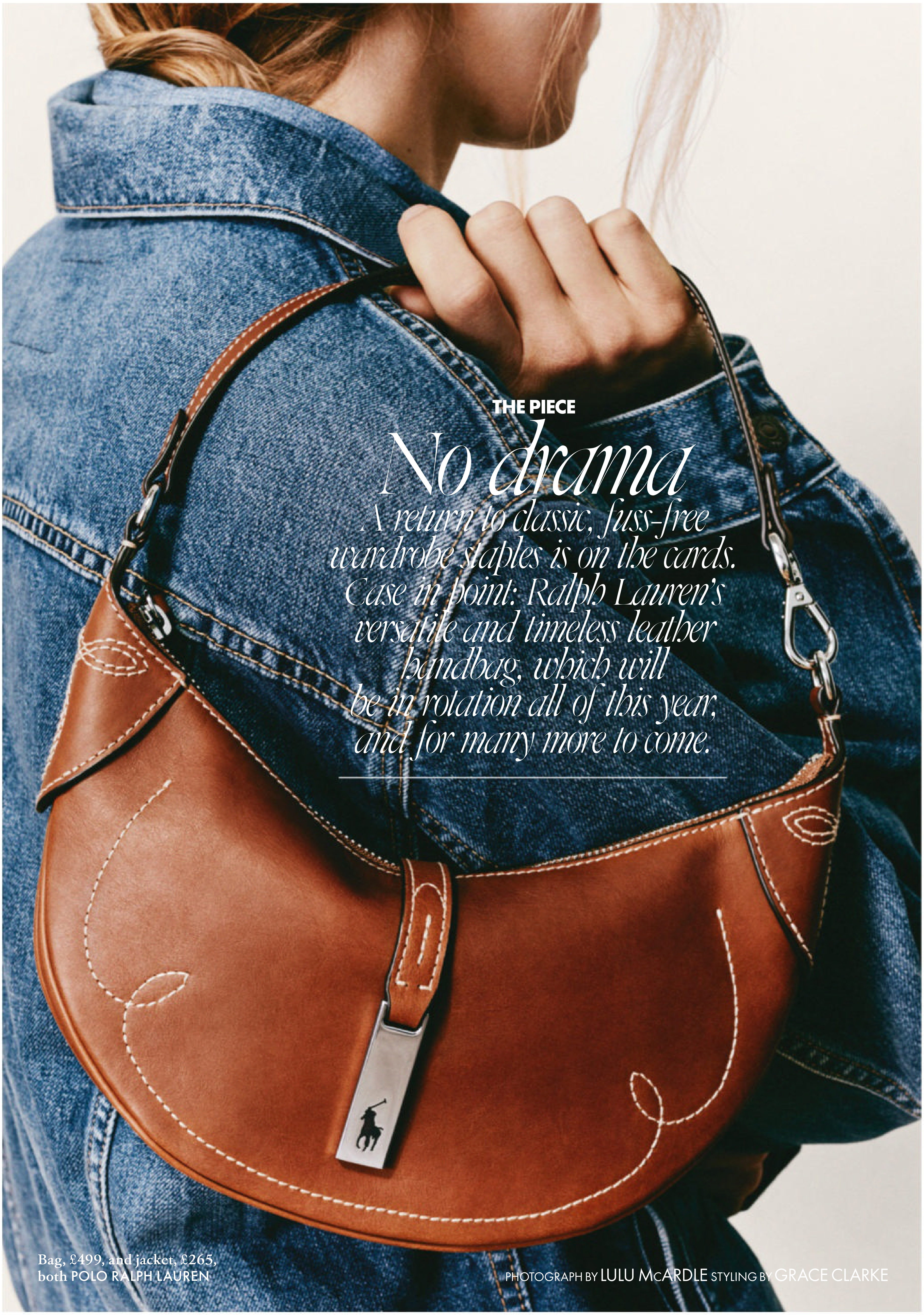
ICE, ICE BABY

YELLOW GOLD HAS ITS FANS, BUT COOLER WHITE METALS ARE OFFICIALLY BACK. SHINE BRIGHT IN TEXTURED OR CHUNKY PIECES



1 and **2** White gold and diamond necklace, price on request; white gold and diamond bracelet, £6,750, both CARTIER **3** Sterling silver necklace, £205, GUCCI **4** White gold and diamond earrings, £13,900, DIOR JOAILLERIE **5** White gold and diamond bangle, price on request, BOUCHERON **6** Sterling silver necklace, £1,555, EĒRA **7** White gold charm, £3,780, SPINELLI KILCOLLIN **8** White gold and diamond earrings, £7,700, CHANEL **9** White gold and diamond necklace, £14,360, YVONNE LEON at MATCHESFASHION **10** Platinum plated sterling silver and topaz earrings, £205, COMPLETEDWORKS **11** Sterling silver ring, £470, CHARLOTTE CHESNAIS at MATCHESFASHION **12** White gold and diamond ring, £3,180, MESSIKA **13** White gold and diamond ear cuff, ANA KHOURI **14** White gold necklace, £6,925, YVONNE LEON **15** White gold and diamond earring, £1,785, ANITA KO **16** White gold and diamond earrings, £2,760, DAVID YURMAN at NET-A-PORTER **17** White gold ring, £1,550, GUCCI

SHOPPING: GRACE CLARKE



THE PIECE

No drama

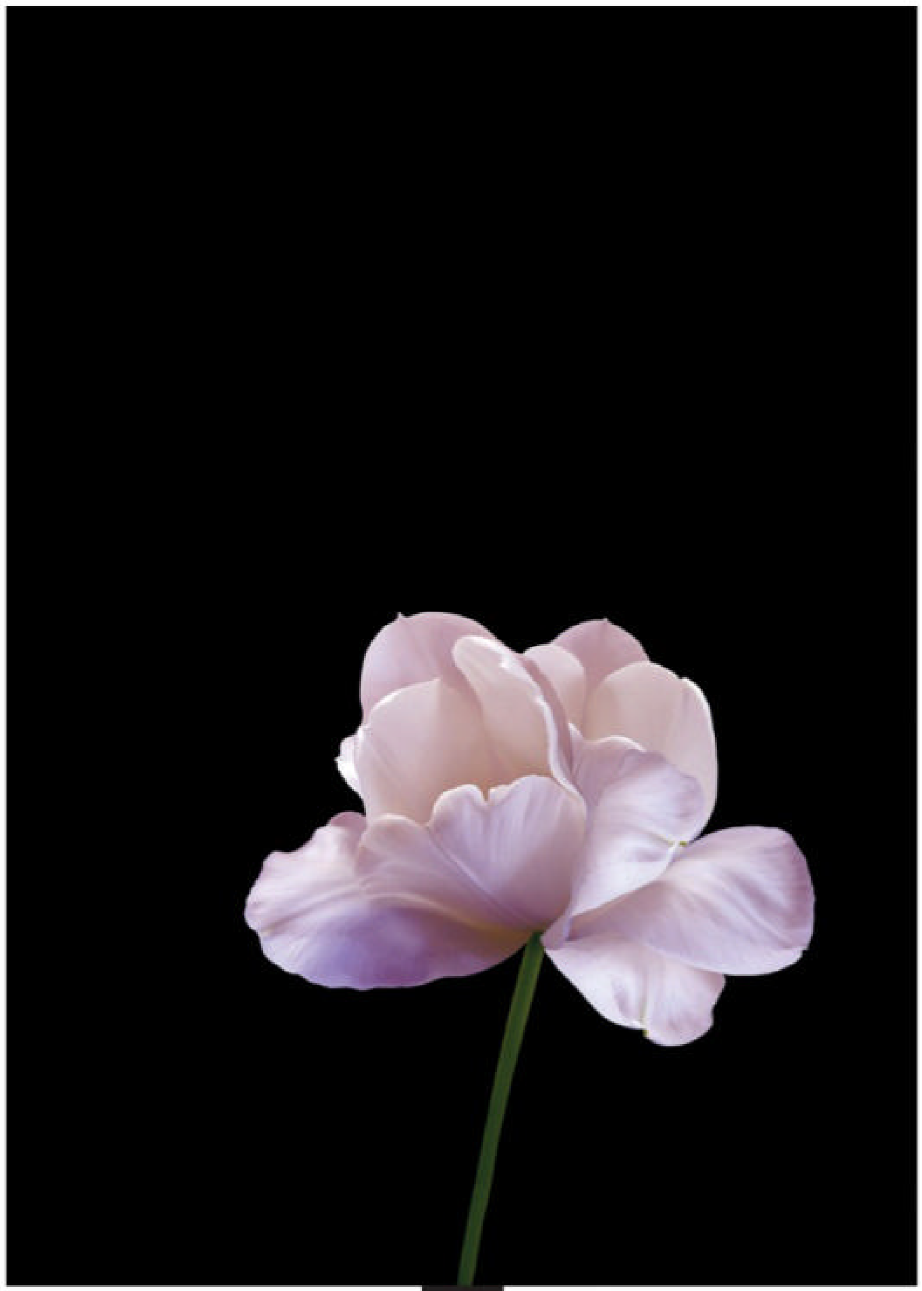
A return to classic, fuss-free wardrobe staples is on the cards. Case in point: Ralph Lauren's versatile and timeless leather handbag, which will be in rotation all of this year, and for many more to come.

Bag, £499, and jacket, £265, both **POLO RALPH LAUREN**

PHOTOGRAPH BY LULU McARDLE STYLING BY GRACE CLARKE

WORDS: ENI SUBAIR. HAIR: RICHARD PHILLIPART AT GARY REPRESENTS. MAKE-UP: SOGOL RAZI

He doesn't remember what you wore
Or where you went
He doesn't remember the day
(Or sometimes even the month)
But he remembers the perfume on his pillow
That lingered long after your early-morning
exit
When you thought you'd never see him again
But you did
And you do



Share your story at scentmemories.org
Fragrance lasts

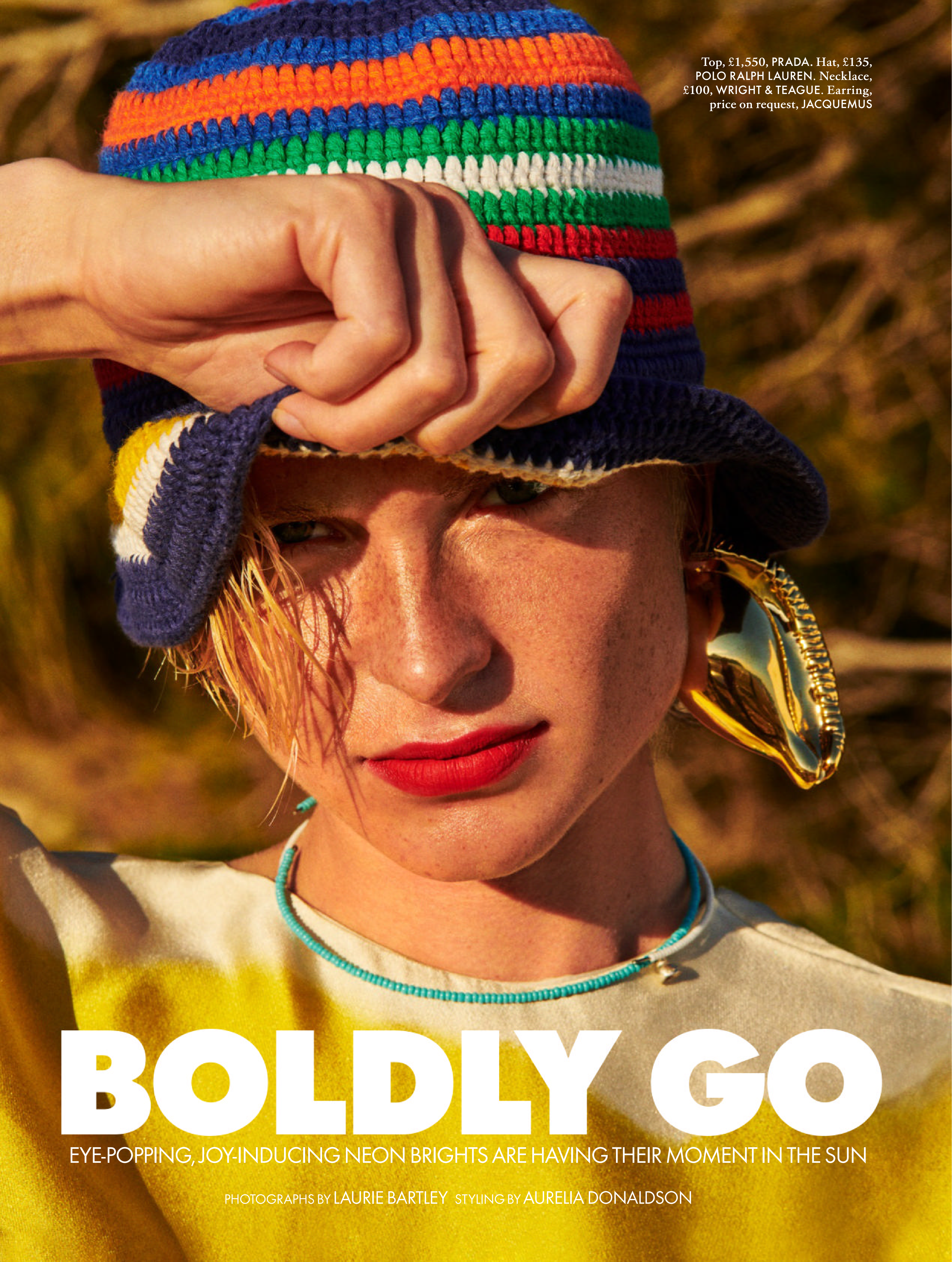
THE FRAGRANCE FOUNDATION UK

IT'S ONE OF THE MOST INTIMATE RELATIONSHIPS OF OUR LIVES, WRAPPED UP IN OUR FEELINGS ABOUT SECURITY, AMBITION, SUCCESS AND STATUS. SO HOW HAVE YOU AND YOUR MONEY BEEN GETTING ON LATELY? THIS MONTH, WE LOOK AT WHAT OUR ATTITUDES TOWARDS OUR BANK BALANCES MEAN, AND WHY THE SUPER-RICH HAVE GONE OUT OF STYLE. PLUS, OUR COVER STAR JODIE TURNER-SMITH ON WHAT SHE REALLY VALUES, AND WE CELEBRATE THE FEEL-GOOD FACTOR OF GROUP MESSAGING

ELLE®

FASHION + READS

PHOTOGRAPH: PETROS



Top, £1,550, PRADA. Hat, £135, POLO RALPH LAUREN. Necklace, £100, WRIGHT & TEAGUE. Earring, price on request, JACQUEMUS

BOLDLY GO

EYE-POPPING, JOY-INDUCING NEON BRIGHTS ARE HAVING THEIR MOMENT IN THE SUN

PHOTOGRAPHS BY LAURIE BARTLEY STYLING BY AURELIA DONALDSON

Bodysuit, £440, MICHAEL KORS COLLECTION. Necklace, £100, WRIGHT & TEAGUE

Top, £1,550, PRADA.
Bikini bottoms,
£200, ERES

Jumper, £229, POLO RALPH LAUREN. Swimsuit, £295, ERES. Bag, around £1,630, GIVENCHY

Top, price on request, LOUIS VUITTON. Bikini bottoms, £50, TONA. Necklace, £100, WRIGHT & TEAGUE

Dress, £3,600, FENDI.
Bracelet, price on
request, VERSACE. Bag,
around £325, BY FAR

Jacket, £5,655, **CHANEL**. Bottoms (sold as a set), £220, **MOLLY GODDARD**. Inside the bag: hat, £135, **POLO RALPH LAUREN**. Shoes, £750, **FENDI**

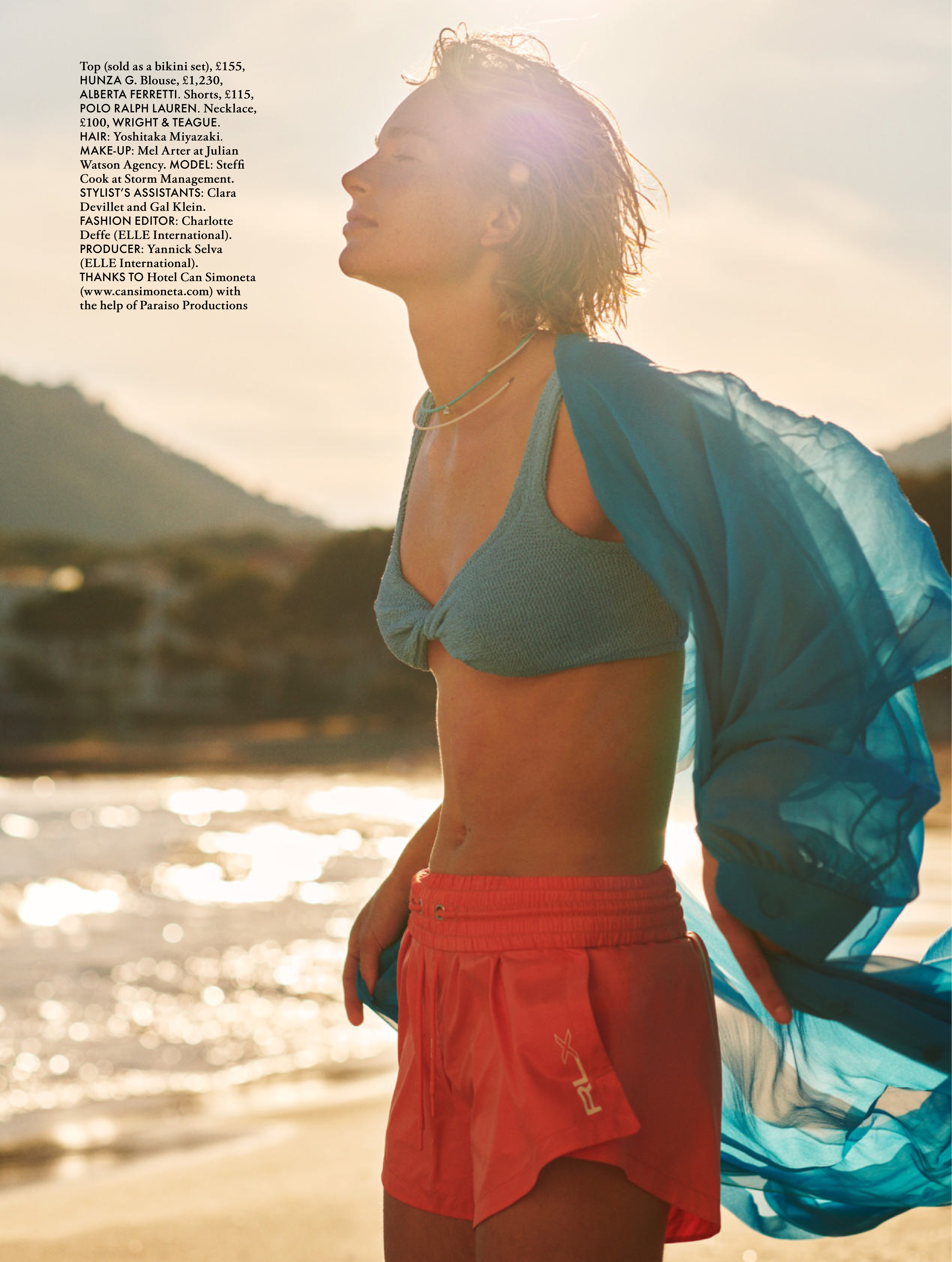
MIU MIU
MIU MIU

Shirt, £590, crop top, £880, and shorts, £860, all MIU MIU. Sunglasses, £290, GUCCI

Top, £350,
EMPORIO ARMANI

Top, £340, SPORTMAX. Shorts, price on request, MAX MARA. Sandals, £750, FENDI

Jacket, £2,635, and trousers, £1,454, both **CHLOĒ**. Necklace, £100, **WRIGHT & TEAGUE**



Top (sold as a bikini set), £155, HUNZA G. Blouse, £1,230, ALBERTA FERRETTI. Shorts, £115, POLO RALPH LAUREN. Necklace, £100, WRIGHT & TEAGUE. HAIR: Yoshitaka Miyazaki. MAKE-UP: Mel Arter at Julian Watson Agency. MODEL: Steffi Cook at Storm Management. STYLIST'S ASSISTANTS: Clara Devillet and Gal Klein. FASHION EDITOR: Charlotte Deffe (ELLE International). PRODUCER: Yannick Selva (ELLE International). THANKS TO Hotel Can Simoneta (www.cansimoneta.com) with the help of Paraiso Productions

Tunic dress, price on request, DIOR. Jeans, £790, STELLA McCARTNEY. Gold bangles, about £485 each, LITTLE LIFFNER. Earrings, stylist's own

THE BIG EASY

IN AN ERA OF TIKTOK-BAIT FASHION, THE WARDROBE MAKES A QUIET COMEBACK WITH CASUAL LOOKS THAT ARE AS STYLISH AS THEY ARE SIMPLE. KESEWA ABOAH MODELS THE CLOTHES YOU'LL BE WEARING —AND LOVING—EACH DAY

PHOTOGRAPHS BY STEF GALEA
STYLING BY AURELIA DONALDSON

Vest, £490, and jacket, £1,250, both STELLA McCARTNEY. Skirt, £325, REJINA PYO. Gold bangle, about £485, LITTLE LIFFNER. Earrings, stylist's own. Pendant, £125, COMPLETEDWORKS. Bag, £1,200, SPORTMAX. Trainers (just seen), £90, ADIDAS ORIGINALS

Jumper, £1,250, and T-shirt (worn underneath), £710, both MIU MIU. Briefs, about £140, EXTREME CASHMERE. Boots, £1,100, CELINE BY HEDI SLIMANE. Earrings, £450, ALEXANDER McQUEEN

Dress, £760, ISABEL MARANT. Earrings, £545, CHARLOTTE CHESNAIS

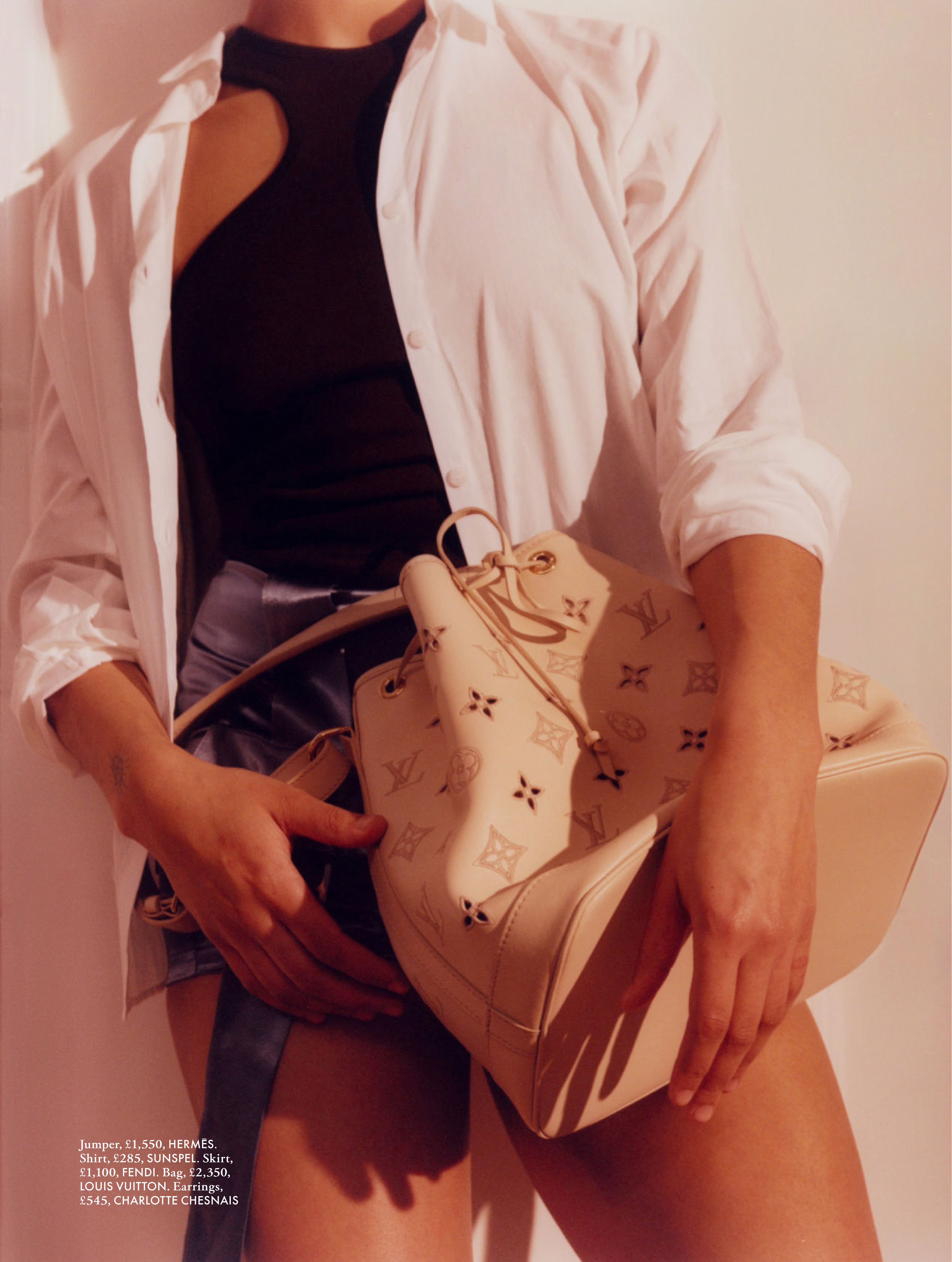
Bra, £270, and jacket, both price on request, CELINE BY HEDI SLIMANE

Shirt, £395, and blazer, £780, both SPORTMAX. Shorts, £95, TEKLA. Earring, £145, ALIGHIERI. Pendant, £125, COMPLETEDWORKS. Bag, £520, NEOUS. Trainers, £90, ADIDAS ORIGINALS

T-shirt, £145, REJINA PYO.
Shorts, £40, SUNSPEL. Skirt,
price on request, TOD'S.
Earrings, £205,
COMPLETEDWORKS

Shirt, £440, MARINA RINALDI BY SARA BATTAGLIA. Skirt, £385, PHILOSOPHY DI LORENZO SERAFINI

Jacket and bra, both price on request, N21 BY ALESSANDRO DELL'ACQUA. Shirt, £140, TEKLA. Trousers, £349, POLO RALPH LAUREN



Jumper, £1,550, HERMĒS. Shirt, £285, SUNSPEL. Skirt, £1,100, FENDI. Bag, £2,350, LOUIS VUITTON. Earrings, £545, CHARLOTTE CHESNAIS

Shirt, £440, MARINA RINALDI BY SARA BATTAGLIA. Jacket, £675, PHILOSOPHY DI LORENZO SERAFINI. Earrings, £545, CHARLOTTE CHESNAIS. STYLIST'S ASSISTANT: Crystalle Cox MODEL: Kesewa at Viva Model Management. HAIR: Naomi Regan. HAIR ASSISTANT: Luka Pagani. MAKE-UP: Anna Payne using CHANEL Les Beiges Summer To-Go 2023 and CHANEL Hydra Beauty Mirco Crème Yeux. NAILS: Robbie Tomkins using Bio Sculpture. CASTING: Francesca Hartley for KIN Casting

ON BEAUTY

THE STAR OF OUR FASHION SHOOT, MODEL AND ARTIST KESEWA ABOAH, IS CHARTING A NEW COURSE ON HER OWN TERMS. SHE TALKS TO *CHARLOTTE JANSEN* ABOUT MAKING HER MARK ON THE GALLERY AND RUNWAY WORLDS

'I was trying to explain my job to someone the other day, and how I go to the studio and roll around in paint, and I just got the giggles – it sounds made up,' Kesewa Aboah laughs. The 28-year-old model and artist turns her body into paintbrushes to create her works. It's an intimate, intuitive process that involves getting naked, covering herself or a collaborator in a mix of pigment and body oil, and pressing bare flesh onto large sheets of paper spread out on the floor. The results are often a surprise – liberating, Aboah admits, as she tends to overthink things.

'You can't control how it's going to look – my ass always comes out huge, which I love because I have a really flat ass! But I really like the process: I repeat the same thing over and over again, but it never produces the same result.'

When the body printing is done, Aboah works details into the surface with her hands, embroidering or adding outlines to create a textured, tapestry-like effect. Lately, she's been working on a new series of paintings using giant sheets of a special watercolour paper and a matte black paint, lush as velvet. The large-scale pieces resemble X-rays, the traces of bodies and their free movements like stamps 'of a memory, or a feeling, something I haven't been able to articulate'. They're both delicate and punchy – not unlike the artist herself.

The panache of Aboah's paintings belies the fact she's still only starting to navigate the art world. With both parents and her sister all pillars within the fashion industry (her mum is booking agent Camilla Lowther, dad location scout Charles Aboah and older sister Adwoa a renowned model), Aboah established her own career as a model early on – signed to an agency at 16, she hs starred in campaigns for brands including Miu Miu, Alexander McQueen and H&M. Most recently, she walked for Daniel Lee's highly anticipated debut London Fashion Week show for Burberry in February, alongside Iris Law and Lennon Gallagher. But years of getting 'museum foot' exploring galleries with her parents had a deep influence, and Aboah eventually found her way to New York's prestigious School of Visual Arts, where she studied printmaking. 'My parents were always good at pushing us not to be "successful" but to find something we were passionate about and to do that. I think that's the best gift they could have ever given us.'

She describes her six years living in New York City as a 'really intense' period. 'It was a rocky road. There were big high and lows, but it was really, really good fun.' She moved back to London in 2019 and now has a studio in a former warehouse in Park Royal, north-west London, where she creates to the sound of Marvel movies: 'I used to be really embarrassed about the fact I work to films and TV, but the pace is right for me.' She continues to model, but otherwise she heads to the studio from 9 to 5. 'It's my sanctuary – no one is judging. I can make a lot of mistakes. I go in, sometimes begrudgingly, and chip away at it every day. I feel privileged to be able to afford a studio and to do something that fulfils me.'

Aboah has started to exhibit her work in public – including at the Armory Show in New York and the Timothy Taylor gallery in London, where she was part of a group show with a cohort of rising stars of the British art scene that included the painters Sahara Longe and Antonia Showering. 'I'm still at the beginning of the journey of my career – it's such a weird world, but I've met lots of lovely people who have encouraged me,' she says.

Overcoming feelings of imposter syndrome when she started out, Aboah now knows where to look for inspiration. 'I've learned that it's OK not to like something if it doesn't speak to you. I love a Dutch Master these days. I recently saw Cy Twombly's work at the Getty Center in LA for the first time – I love how obsessive he was. And Lynette Yiadom-Boakye. Her work is so beautiful, so courageous and confident – you have to have balls to paint that loosely!'

The sentiment chimes perfectly with her own paintings and their raw, dancing fragments of bodies, reminders of the joy of freedom and the radiance of our shared humanity. '[Making the pieces] can be really frustrating, but when the final work comes out it's about letting go, and I feel at peace.' □

THE BRIGHTNESS OF BEING JODIE TURNER-SMITH

THE ACTOR MAY HAVE HOLLYWOOD AT HER FEET, BUT SHE HASN'T FORGOTTEN THE JOURNEY TO GETTING THERE. SHE SITS DOWN WITH HER *SEX EDUCATION* CO-STAR AND FRIEND NCUTI GATWA TO DISCUSS SELF-LOVE, STARDOM AND WHAT COMES NEXT

PHOTOGRAPHS BY PETROS STYLING BY GEORGIA MEDLEY

Dress, £840, PHILOSOPHY DI LORENZO SERAFINI. Earrings, price on request, BALMAIN

EVER SINCE HER 2019 BREAKOUT performance in Melina Matsoukas' *Queen & Slim*, Jodie Turner-Smith has carved out a place for herself within the worlds of film and fashion as a woman to watch. Her starring role as a lawyer turned outlaw was both boldly commanding and deeply vulnerable. It was a transformative moment in what has been a storied career: in her twenties Turner-Smith moved from Peterborough, UK, to Pittsburgh, USA, to work as a banker in a corporate firm, before quitting to become a model and then actor. On screen, Turner-Smith has a mesmeric presence. And off, her playful approach to style lights up every red carpet she graces. Last year she hosted the Fashion Awards in London. Before that, she danced down the runway of Alessandro Michele's SS22 Gucci Love Parade.

2023 is set to be a landmark year for the 36-year-old British actor. She has already appeared as a tenacious political reporter alongside *Succession*'s Brian Cox in *The Independent*. Next, she flexes her comedic muscles, joining rom-com icons Adam Sandler and Jennifer Aniston in *Murder Mystery 2* this summer, before starring in *Star Wars* spinoff *The Acolyte*.

In 2018, she met her now husband, actor Joshua Jackson. Inevitably they became one of Hollywood's most-stalked couples, but Turner-Smith took the obsession in her stride. She became a mother in 2020, after a pregnancy that re-wrote every so-called maternity fashion rule, from golden gowns to crop tops that left her bare bump proudly on display.

She is a notably dexterous performer, and one of Turner-Smith's most talked about roles came in 2021, when she made history by becoming the first Black actor to play the doomed Tudor queen, Anne Boleyn. Another actor who understands a thing or two about being a first is Ncuti Gatwa: this autumn he will step into the Tardis as the fifteenth Doctor Who – and the first Black Doctor.

As Gatwa takes on one career-defining role, he leaves another. Netflix's *Sex Education* was the show that catapulted him from rising actor to the big leagues (watch out for him in Greta Gerwig's *Barbie* this summer). But before saying goodbye to his beloved character, Eric, the 30-year-old personally invited Jodie Turner-Smith to star in the fourth season, which will air later this year. While the world waits for that, ELLE reunited the friends, co-stars and actors of the moment over Zoom to discuss everything from nepo babies and imposter syndrome to the unadulterated joys of dressing up.

NCUTI: Jodie! I'm interviewing the big dog, the big G!

JODIE: The big homie! Are you in-between takes? I see you in your trailer.

NCUTI: I'm finished now. I was doing a promo day for *Doctor Who*, and as soon as it wrapped, I was like, 'Get me to my trailer, give me a laptop. I'm interviewing Jodie and none of y'all gonna stop that…' Jodie, we met almost a year ago. Was the first time we met at Critics' Choice Awards?

JODIE: Yes, I was breezing past your table and I saw you and thought, 'I have to tell him how much I love him.'

NCUTI: You did – you walked past me and whispered in my ear. I was so awe-struck that you even knew my name. I'd been absolutely shitting myself and you were so generous with your energy; it made me feel like I deserved to be in that room.

JODIE: It really touches me to hear that I made even a moment of difference for you. I understand impostor syndrome. I find it to be so important to tell people how much they matter – to you, to the world, to whoever. When I was doing the Met Gala for the first time, I remember thinking, 'Oh my God, I don't ever want to do this.' I didn't feel good. You're waiting to get onto the carpet, my shoes were hurting. I was not feeling the vibe. I remember there was this moment where my husband just took me by the hand and said, 'You deserve to be here.'

NCUTI: That's so beautiful. Speaking of the Met, every look that you do is iconic. That yellow gown…

JODIE: The yellow Gucci dress that I wore to the BAFTAs? Everyone remembers that dress, it permanently stores itself in everybody's brain – mine included.

NCUTI: What is your relationship with fashion?

JODIE: I love to have fun! I think fashion is play, it's costume: an opportunity for expression of self – or whatever self you happen to be in that particular moment. I am of the opinion that while I look like this, I'm gonna do all the crazy things with it that I can. There are certain things that I'm able to do and wear and get away with, and opportunities that being a young actor affords me. You want me to wear the clothes? Yes! They may not want me to wear the clothes forever…

NCUTI: Where did you get this 'live in the moment' mentality from?

JODIE: I have a mother who has such a beautiful spirit. In Jamaican culture there's a sense of celebration in existence. That's part of it, and I think there's something in the way I was raised. We were poor, but I never really had a sense of it. I certainly wasn't as poor as my mother when she was growing up, but when you come from not having anything, you want to grasp life with both arms.

NCUTI: Kedar [Williams-Stirling] from *Sex Education* has this quote – he always says, 'Everything's a moment in time.' I love when he says that because it's like, everything *is* just a moment, so really grab it. Girl, I've seen you with your beautiful daughter, and you're doing more than the best job…

JODIE: I love this little girl so much. She's so funny. It's a big job to prepare children for the world. The best thing that we can do is let them touch the earth and be grounded and real – as real as one can be when you have the level of privilege that obviously my child has. I'm not acting like she's not a nepo baby. But I worked damn hard to have a nepo baby!

NCUTI: The thing is – and I don't know because I'm not raising any children – but from my experience with my ▷

'IN JAMAICAN CULTURE THERE'S A SENSE OF CELEBRATION IN EXISTENCE'

INTRODUCTION: SHANNON MAHANTY

Top, £2,000, and skirt, £3,610, both GUCCI. Earrings, bracelets and rings, all price on request, GUCCI FINE JEWELLERY

Dress, price on request,
bodysuit, £650, and
choker, £380, all GUCCI.
Earrings, bracelet and
ring, all price on request,
GUCCI HIGH JEWELLERY

Top, £2,620, and hood, price on request, both PACO RABANNE. Bodysuit, £108, COMMANDO. Tights, £6.99, CALZEDONIA. Earrings, £610, GUCCI. Bracelet, £4,140, GUCCI FINE JEWELLERY

Dress, price on request, EMMA GUDMONDSON. Earrings, about £390, LEDA MADERA

> 'FOR A LONG TIME, PEOPLE WOULD SAY "YOU'RE SO PRETTY – FOR A DARK-SKINNED GIRL"'

mum, you won't be able to protect her from everything, and that is what enables her strength.

JODIE: She is going to have a completely different experience in the world than I did, because I have given birth to a mixed-race girl. It's interesting because I had a lot of resistance to becoming a mother and, throughout my life, I always said if I were to have children, I wanted to have Black, Black babies so that I could affirm them as children with the love that I felt I needed to have been affirmed with by the outside world. Then I fell in love with my husband and we talked about having kids. To decide not to have a child with somebody you love, just because they're white, was insane to me. But, at the same time, I did have this mini pause, where I was like, 'She's going to be walking through the world not only having an experience that I did not have, but looking like people that, in a way, I'd always felt a little bit tormented by.' Now that I've got this little, tiny, light-skinned boss, I feel like it's the universe teaching me lessons. I've been given a daughter who looks this way to heal my own conversations around colourism.

NCUTI: As a dark-skinned woman, in a society that is not always the kindest, how did you find your confidence?

JODIE: I was watching an old movie the other day, *Stormy Weather* [1943] with Bill Robinson and Lena Horne. It's an all-Black cast, and there is not one single dark-skinned woman. Back then, it was OK to have a dark-skinned male lead, but the woman had to be light. That was what was held up as a kind of beauty. If it was a dark-skinned Black woman, then it's a Mammy character, a desexualized character. For a long time in entertainment any sort of dark-skinned figures were held up as unattractive. That has a huge effect on the zeitgeist and it trickles down.

NCUTI: It affects your sense of self-worth.

JODIE: Exactly! Because you've never seen anybody who looks like you held up as beautiful. That definitely affected my psyche. Anyone who has known me throughout my life would say, 'Oh, Jodie has very high self-esteem.' But it affected me, I just faked it till I made it. It wasn't until adulthood that I began to come into myself. For a long time, people would even say to me, 'You're so pretty… for a dark-skinned girl.'

NCUTI: You went from working in finance to modelling, a job that was defined by beauty standards. Mentally, what was going on for you?

JODIE: When I started modelling I went around to agencies, and they would be like, 'We already have one Black girl and she's mixed-race.' That's why I love Naomi Campbell, Iman and Bethann Hardison, how vocal they were about pushing this idea that the fashion industry was too white. Still [today] there are times where there are not a lot of Black models walking. What's going on?

NCUTI: It definitely still feels like diversity is just a trend in the fashion industry. Let's reflect the actual world we see! Beauty comes in all shapes, forms, sizes and colours. That's what this industry should be about. Now, we have been talking about a lot of very serious topics. I want to talk about how flipping funny you are. I watched *Murder Mystery 2* last night and I can't believe that I don't have you as a comedic actress in my head. I think because *Queen & Slim* was so monumental –

JODIE: So intense and serious.

NCUTI: People must have that vision of you. It was the most beautiful performance ever, but you have strings to your bow, and you have comedic chops for days! Are you enjoying getting more into comedy?

JODIE: I want to do everything. I feel like, why limit myself? Jennifer Aniston and Adam Sandler: when the two of them do their thing together, it's so f*cking hysterical. I'm so proud of myself because I was cracking Adam and Jen up. I had so much fun, and let me just say, Jennifer Aniston is so cool.

NCUTI: I'm so glad you said that.

JODIE: She really is that girl, babe, she really is.

NCUTI: I get that impression from her too.

JODIE: And Adam Sandler is a G. They really know how to work. I mean, it was Paris and Hawaii, OK. Honey, the locations!

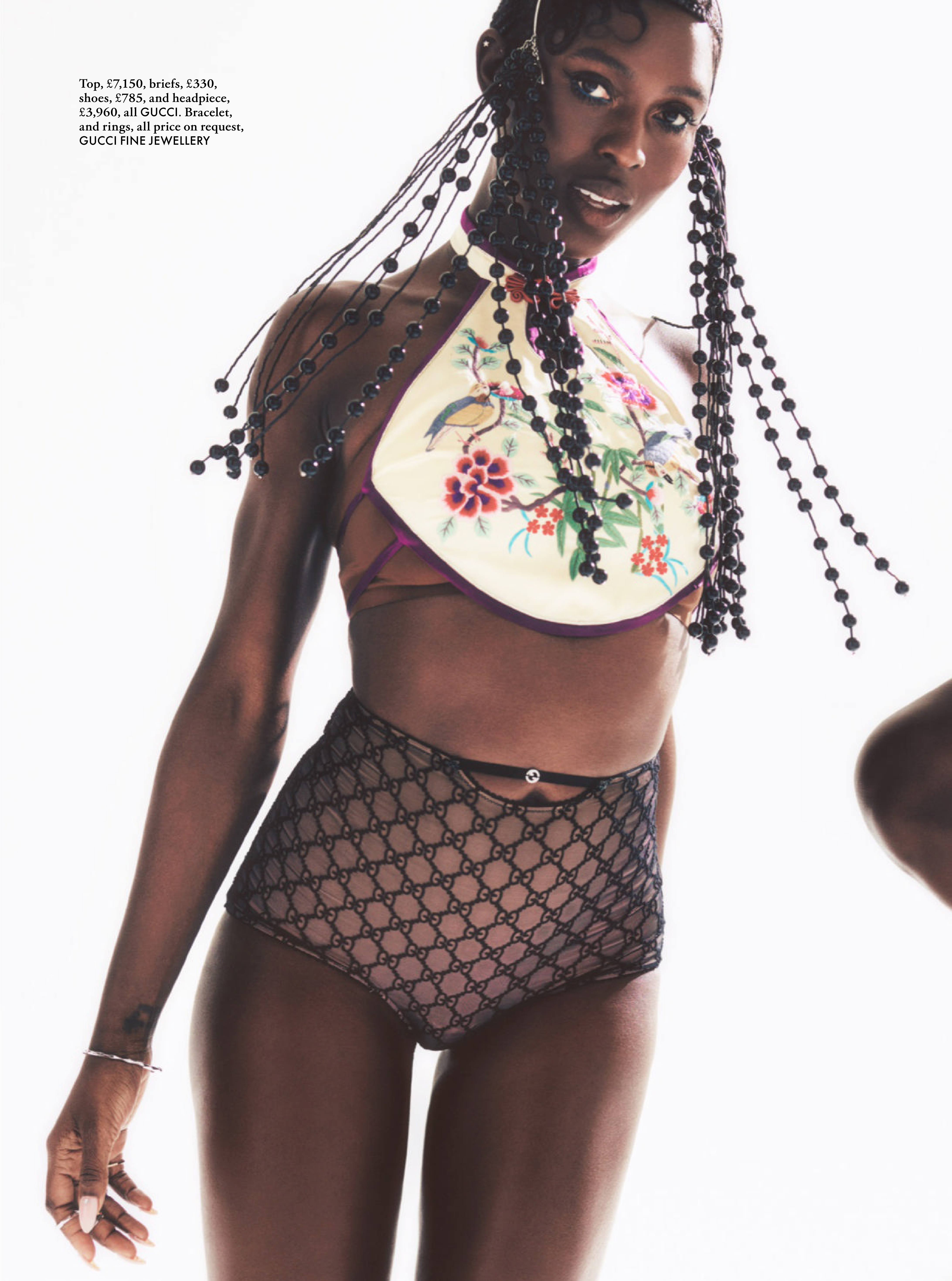
NCUTI: And I've been filming in minus temperatures in Wales. Jodie, I want to talk about *Sex Education* 4. It was a hard shoot for me, because there had been so many changes to the season. Then the producer comes in and asks me to text you to get you in. I remember thinking, 'If there is a world in which she says yes, I want to be in that world. So, f*ck it, I'm gonna text her.' When I got this text back saying that you were keen, I was like, 'This is wild!' Then obviously you're very busy – you were doing *Star Wars*, I started wondering if it was ever going to happen...

JODIE: And you were doing *Doctor Who* at the same time as well.

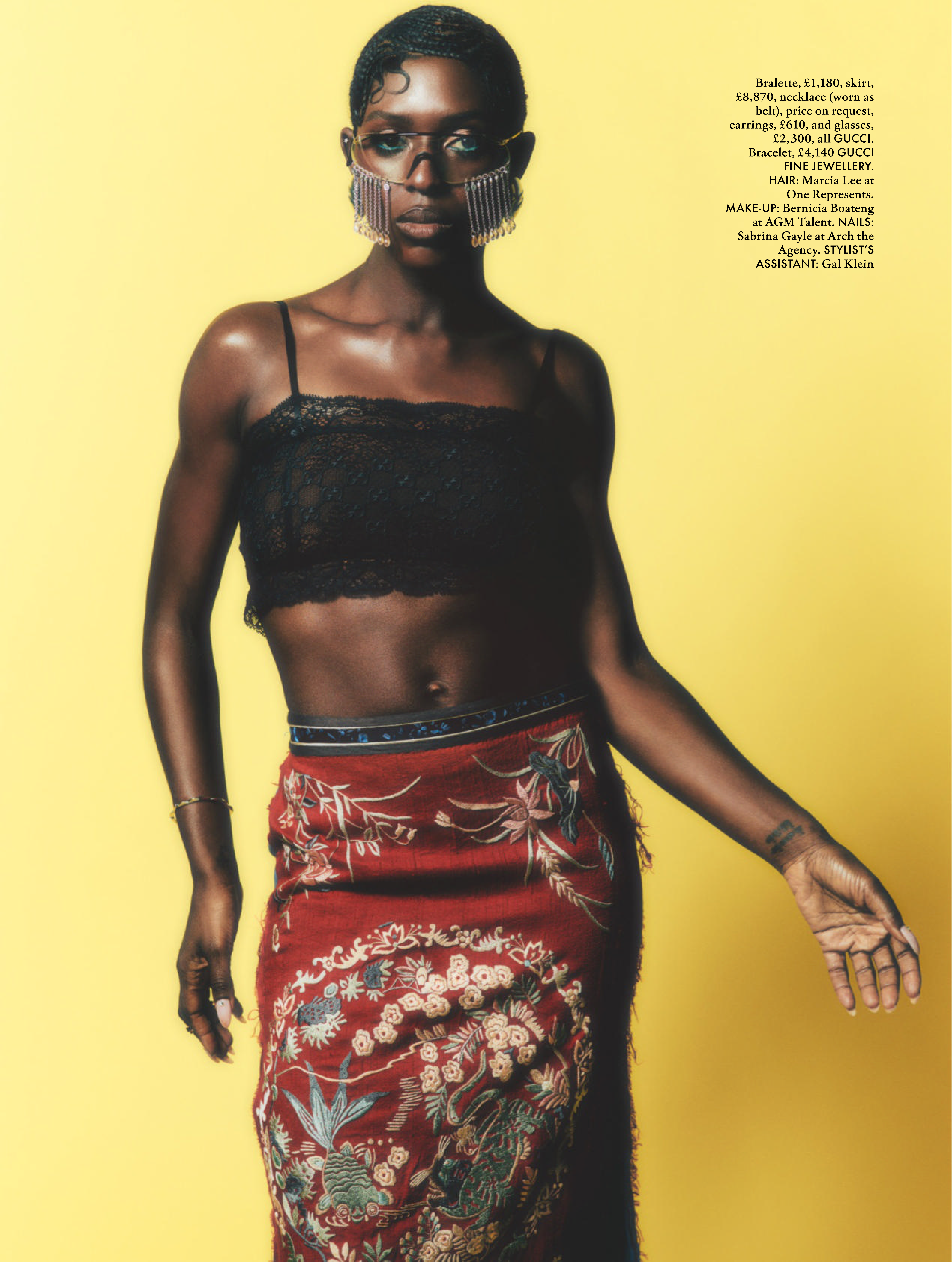
NCUTI: But we managed to get you! I can't tell you how much you blessed us and you blessed me with your presence on that show. Those final scenes that we had together were so emotive – you had the crew crying! What you did to that script was pure magic. I will never not be grateful to you for coming on to the show. I got the chance to work with you – that was a dream come true.

JODIE: It's so funny because we started this conversation off talking about imposter syndrome. No one is immune from that little voice, even me, so to hear you, an actor who I admire so much, speak so powerfully about how it felt to perform with me: that's so affirming. There's no harsher critic that we have than ourselves; I don't think those thoughts ever go away, but I've made a conscious choice to not live in them for so long. I feel insecure, but I also feel secure and I choose to lean into feeling good about myself and lean onto the people in my life who affirm me. ☐

'Murder Mystery 2' is out on Netflix this month.



Top, £7,150, briefs, £330, shoes, £785, and headpiece, £3,960, all GUCCI. Bracelet, and rings, all price on request, GUCCI FINE JEWELLERY

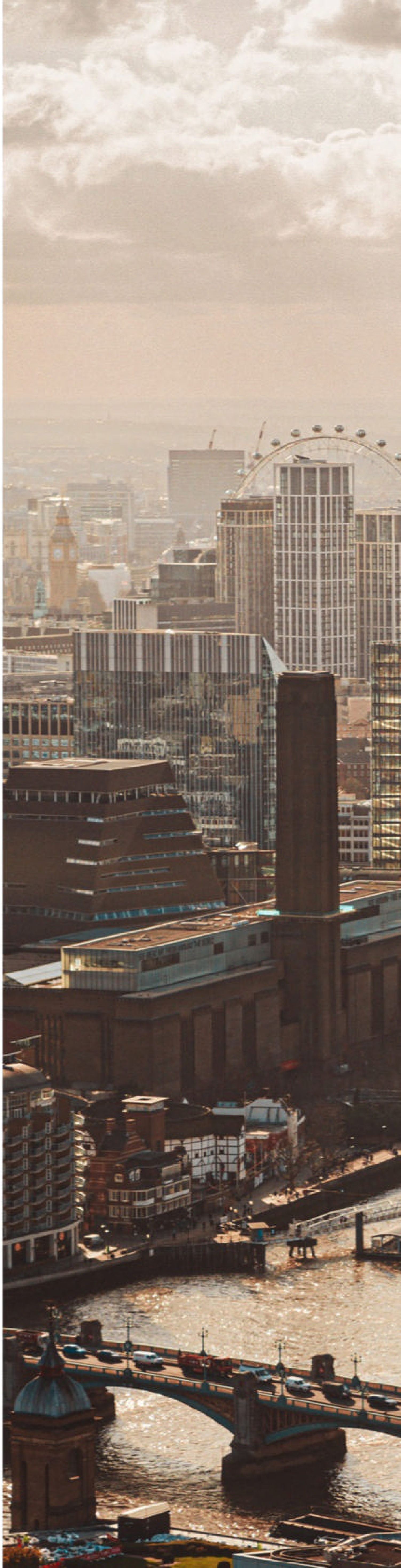


Bralette, £1,180, skirt, £8,870, necklace (worn as belt), price on request, earrings, £610, and glasses, £2,300, all GUCCI. Bracelet, £4,140 GUCCI FINE JEWELLERY. HAIR: Marcia Lee at One Represents. MAKE-UP: Bernicia Boateng at AGM Talent. NAILS: Sabrina Gayle at Arch the Agency. STYLIST'S ASSISTANT: Gal Klein

AT ALL COSTS

TO TALK ABOUT MONEY IS TO TALK ABOUT RELATIONSHIPS, EQUALITY, SELF-LOVE AND SO MUCH MORE. AND YET, WE'RE SO RARELY OPEN ABOUT OUR FINANCIAL OUTLOOK. HERE, FOUR WRITERS SHARE THE ECONOMICS OF THEIR LIVES

COLLAGES ANNA BU KLIEWER



GIVING UP ON A 'FOREVER HOME'

BY KIERAN YATES

WHEN I FIRST HEARD THE TERM 'FOREVER home', I let it circle around my mouth, allowing the sweetness of it to sit on my tongue, like a lick of honey. A 'forever home' suggests an end goal. A place where you can escape the precarity of life, a place where you can trick yourself into thinking you can buy safety from the state, unemployment and a fluctuating economy – and then sink into carefully curated bedding and let it all pass you by.

I have moved house so many times that I should have the choreography of picking up and packing away small objects heavy with nostalgia down pat. One is a small cherry-red metal box with bronze hinges. It has followed me since childhood, when I bought it for 50p at a school fête. I used to fill it with shiny coins and stow it under my bed. Now, it joins the other things I have accumulated from a life in flux – golden pothos house plants, my mum's gilded tissue box, stacks of magazines – all at the mercy of a housing crisis that has forced me from tenancy to tenancy since childhood.

Stuff has a way of becoming part of this choreography, and I've slowly come to the realisation that, one day, I might be able to give it all a home for good.

I have grown up in between the cracks of constant house moves – council estates, old car showrooms and mouldy houseshares. Moving around teaches you two things: that housing is precarious and the reasons why cannot be simply solved with a mortgage. In the biggest housing crisis of a generation, the lure of house buying is still seen as aspirational. Not only because it can be cheaper than renting (on average, private renters spend 31% of their income on rent, compared to 18% of those paying mortgages), or that it may provide the security that renting doesn't (as long as you can pay your mortgage and the market doesn't ▷

crash), but because it still represents a tantalising, glistening fantasy. Framing it as a luxury often makes it harder to think of it as a right.

I grapple with, as much as I delight in, the idea of home ownership as an escape from a chaotic, destabilising world. While writing my book about the housing crisis, I used part of the advance to put down a deposit on a flat with my partner, benefiting in large part from his generational wealth, in the hope that I might find some peace in staying still. Yet I have not stopped feeling like our security is precarious.

I have something no one else in my immediate family has – a place of my own. Now I ask myself new questions: what responsibility does home ownership give me? What activism can improve conditions for long-term renters? How do we make sure we don't just acquire our castles and raise the drawbridges?

We all suffer at the hands of the housing crisis in different ways, but only by creating support networks do we equip ourselves to fight back. Homeowners too often see themselves as outside these conversations but, of course, this isn't true. If anything, it serves as a reminder that if there is even one thing we can do, however small, to distribute our privilege, we should do it. After all, you can't simply buy your way out of uncertainty. In fact, half of all households in poverty are home-owners. My own moments of feeling settled hang in the balance of the success of my relationship and faith in my current employment as a freelance journalist and author.

Now, as an adult who knows better, I do not believe in a 'forever home'. I do not believe the current system works for anyone, even those who feel secure in their housing. I know the market and my personal finances are in flux all the time, and that it is by sheer exceptional circumstance that I'm able to – currently – own a property. This is not success, or evidence of housing acquisition working as it should. Individual ownership doesn't grant us security from the political and social crisis that we find ourselves in. If anything, it reminds us how fragile an ecosystem housing is, and the importance of providing it for all of us.

My life is still full of possibility, of change – it must be. If I have children, I will tell them that building any home and feeling safe, secure and supported by a community is essential. I will hold them close and tell them that we can always make a home together. For now, I get joy from finding a resting place for my cherry-red trinket box, but I know that I might have to pick it up again one day, that these moments serve as a distraction from reality. That the pleasure of home only really works for me when it works for everyone.

'All The Houses I've Ever Lived In' by Kieran Yates is published on 27 April by Simon & Schuster.

SOLVING THE MONEY QUESTION

BY ALEX HOLDER

I WOULDN'T KNOW IT UNTIL LATER, BUT the defining moment of my career was when I quit my job. It came with a six-figure salary. Who leaves one of those? I was a partner at an advertising agency, a job I'd spent a decade working towards.

I left my position for the usual reasons: I wanted to spend time with my baby son when he wasn't asleep; I didn't want to stay up all night thinking of a headline for a gambling brand; and I didn't really want to be working with people who genuinely believed they were changing the world one advert at a time.

'WHAT RESPONSIBILITY DOES HOME OWNERSHIP GIVE ME?'

We're always taught that, as we move through our career, our salary will steadily increase; at least, that's how it should go. Well, not always. I found another job in journalism where I was paid less than half my previous wage. It was only then that I realised how much of my identity had been wrapped up with what I was paid. I had to swallow my pride and felt differently around people who I had previously earned the same as. I knew some would see earning less as a step down; it was exposing. But something happened in the new job – I began to feel creative and purposeful for the first time in many years. I was that elusive thing… happy at work.

Accepting that salary can't necessarily be plotted on an upwards trajectory freed up so many career options. I swore to myself I would never blindly follow money again – I just needed to make sure I had enough. I wrote a book about our emotional relationship with money; I interviewed countless people about how much they earned and how they felt about it and, if I learned one thing, it was that more money doesn't automatically make you happier. I felt enlightened; I'd never be a wage-slave again! But you know what happens to smug, self-proclaimed 'enlightened' people, right?

I have been a freelancer for five years now and, somewhere along the way, I slipped back into old habits. For the first few years, I balanced work I was passionate about with the work that paid my mortgage – writing adverts. At the start I had a set amount I needed to earn each month, which, as the primary earner and with a child in full-time London childcare, was £5,500. Once I'd earned that, I'd spend the other days doing passion projects and even fitted in the occasional afternoon yoga class. I enjoyed that freelancing let me pick and choose my clients and I was able to say no to morally bankrupting work.

Lately, though, I keep saying yes to money work in a misguided belief that once I have 'enough' in the bank I will then do the other things I dream about – finish that novel, be there for my kids after nursery, go back to studying. But, really, I'm back chasing money again. Although I'm not immune to Instagram ads selling me overpriced knitwear, I don't think I'm driven by greed.

Perhaps it's being surrounded by the

'cost of living' headlines; perhaps it is the reality that everything, even basic needs, are more expensive. Partly it is to do with the economy of being self-employed – I don't know a freelancer who doesn't worry about the work 'running out'. I guess, right now, I feel that to say no to work is to be ungrateful.

When I was in my late twenties, I was in a worrying amount of debt spread over different, luridly coloured credit cards. It was at this time that I was offered a free session with a financial advisor by my then-workplace. The man – of course it was a man; this was 10 years ago, when male financial advisors outnumbered women 10 to one – looked at my situation and told me that one day I wouldn't feel safe unless I had £5,000 in the bank. The then 28-year-old me thought this sounded ludicrous. To have money in an account just sat there seemed pointless. And yet, that financial advisor was right – having savings is now part of my mental health. Eventually, I would start to feel edgy if that number fell to less than £20,000.

I've definitely come a long way since the 28-year-old who casually racked up credit-card debt, and what I'm realising is that our relationship with money is a life's work. It's not something that can be solved, either by a financial advisor or a pay rise. You might think you know how you feel about your finances, and then a baby, a redundancy or an energy bill will change everything.

Now I am applying to do a masters degree and, if I'm accepted, I will be returning to student life and the baked beans and discount cards that come with it. Am I ready for this kind of financial reckoning? I'm not completely sure, but deciding to go back to university is just another way of quitting my day job, and I suppose that worked out well enough for me once before.

'NO ONE EVER TALKED ABOUT WHAT "ENOUGH" LOOKED LIKE'

FINDING MY 'JUST ENOUGH'

BY AJA BARBER

HAVE YOU EVER HAD A MOMENT WHERE you felt like you couldn't catch a break? Couldn't make enough money to just have a nice life? Always felt like you were underpaid and overworked and paddling frantically to stay above water financially? I actually experienced that more than I care to recall. But there was also a pivotal point in my twenties that allowed me to find long-lasting joy and view 'earning potential' differently. It was also a moment that would deeply impact the integrity of how I lived my life and built my current career as a writer who talks about consumption and fast fashion. It was the moment when I decided I didn't want to be rich. And that, despite all the signals in our society that tell us wealth is the ultimate trophy in life, it was absolutely not what I wanted.

Now you're probably thinking, 'easy to say if you have money', but actually, I was pretty broke when I had this epiphany, and gearing up to move back in with my parents in Reston, Virginia for the umpteenth time. I was working in TV production, and it was feast or famine when it came to freelance work – but mostly famine if I'm honest. If you were to look at my tax returns from those days, you'd see I easily qualified for benefits but never collected them (probably because of internal shame from false narratives insinuating that Black people are the biggest recipients of welfare in America when, in reality, it's white people). I had been living with roommates and was very worried I would always be in that situation, under someone else's roof, paying someone else's mortgage.

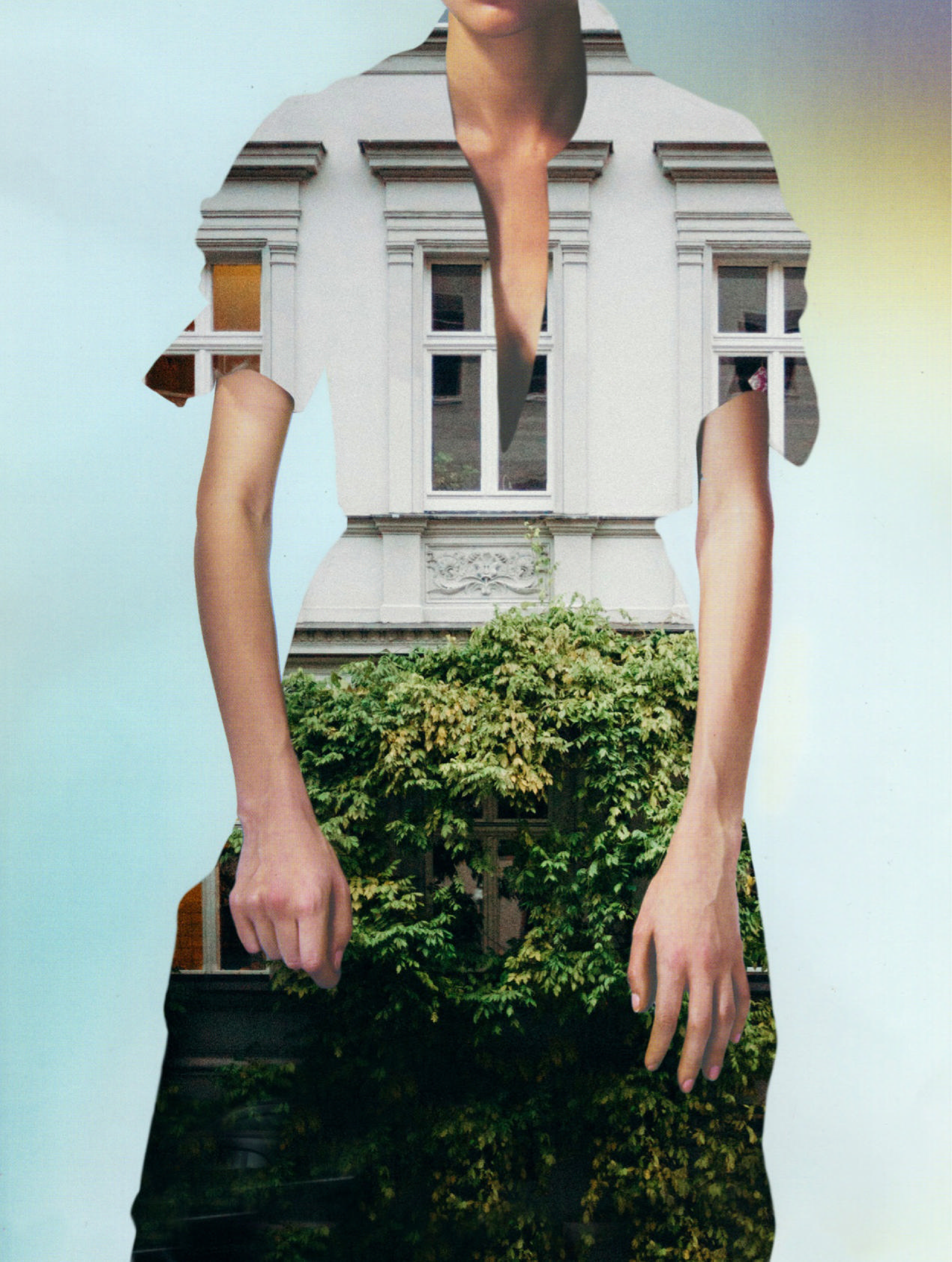
It led me to daydreaming about a time when I wouldn't be broke – and it sounded mighty nice. And then I started to think about what amount of money I would require to no longer 'feel' broke. What amount of money would I need to earn to bring me financial safety and security? At the time (2010), I had read about a Princeton study that reached the conclusion that $75,000 (around £50,000 back then) was a place where your happiness level plateaued, and that any amount above this figure wouldn't add to a person's degree of satisfaction.

This was mind-blowing for me. All my life I had grown up in a culture that praised endless wealth with no one talking about what 'enough' looked like. I grew up in the Eighties watching people like Donald Trump be praised as aspirational (something I never quite understood). But once I had a tangible idea of what enough felt like for me in our society, I was happy to strive towards that and only that.

This idea of enoughness freed me. It freed me from seeking material things. It freed me from constantly wondering what a good life would look like with millions in the bank and the seemingly enormous task of achieving that. Later down the line, when I would create a social-media platform that required integrity to be my north star, this idea of enoughness permeated my thoughts.

I took a pledge to my readership to never promote fast fashion. One year, I turned down six figures worth of advertising because I can't say something is ethical or sustainable if it isn't. Sometimes it can be hard to walk away from such money, especially as someone who didn't grow up with generational wealth or financial privilege. The truth is, there's a lot of greenwashing about and I never want to be the face of it, because once you sell your integrity it's challenging to buy it back.

Ultimately, having an idea of what enough looks like to the point where I can feel financially comfortable without being filthy rich has allowed me to do this. I feel very content and lucky in my life. I can pay for the roof over my head. I can travel sometimes, if I want to. I even can save for a few nice pieces of clothing. And, most importantly, I can treat my friends and loved ones to nice things (and I have to say this is by far the most important bit for me). ▷



Sure, there are a few things I'd like to do during my time on this planet, but none of them require me to be a billionaire. And thank god for that, because all that greed got us into this mess. I'll never ride in a private jet or own a fancy car. But I didn't really want those things to begin with. All I know is that deciding that I didn't want to be rich in my twenties helped me to become the person I am today. And that's enough.

BEING PRICED OUT OF MY HOME CITY

BY SHARMAINE LOVEGROVE

I OWE MUCH OF WHO I AM TO LONDON. Raised in Battersea, I moved to Hackney to live with a partner when I was 18. Throughout my youth I saw the city as a giant playground and truly embraced its diversity and myriad lifestyles and experiences. But when Boris Johnson became mayor in 2008, I moved to Berlin. I was concerned London was going to become like an offshore tax haven, a playground for the rich and famous, and that it would be insufferable. What I didn't know then but do now is that whenever Boris Johnson came to power, I would move to another country, and that what began as political motivations to leave my home city would soon become financial.

I also left London because I had a dream of opening my own bookshop. The manager of the Hackney branch of Barclays Bank said I was totally mad to even consider opening one in London Fields as it was full of muggers and drunks, not readers. On my last visit to Broadway Market, I noted there are three thriving bookstores on this small strip in east London.

While living in Berlin, I met my wonderful husband and, through him, his dad. The first time we met, on hearing about my bookshop dream, my future father-in-law wrote me a cheque and declared himself my first investor. That, along with the £5,000 I made through working in a friend's restaurant during the evenings, in a bookshop at weekends and my day job as a literary publicist, is how I funded my first bookstore, Dialogue Books.

Thirteen years later, Dialogue Books is now a division within Hachette, the second-largest publishing house in the world. I have gone from being a bookseller on a tiny wage to a managing director on an ample salary. My professional life has been abundant and purposeful, and I have risen up the ranks to earn my place on the board of Hachette UK.

My personal life has also been fruitful. My husband and I have an 11-year-old son and 18-month-old twin girls. In between these births, we moved back to the UK from Germany to reconnect with our families. But as soon as the Brexit vote was announced, we made a pact that if Boris became Prime Minister and our freedom of movement was threatened we'd move back to Berlin and secure EU passports.

What started off as a political move, however, quickly became a financial one. While living in Berlin, we were blessed with our twins, and we couldn't have been happier to become a family of five. We thought about moving back to London to be closer to our family so they could also enjoy the children. But we soon realised that, despite our salaries (combined, a decent six figures), we were unable to afford a home of our own in the city where four generations of my family were born and live.

I asked friends how they had afforded their large homes in leafy areas of London when they didn't earn as much as us. The truth came reluctantly, and the truth was they had inherited five to six figures from their parents or grandparents as a deposit. It didn't matter how much we earned: without that capital we'd be locked out of London.

Not only had house prices risen from £30,000 to £1.2 million for a four-bed house in Battersea in my lifetime, the cost of childcare was unaffordable for us. In Berlin, we pay €2,000 a month rent (including bills) and €50 a month for full-time childcare for the twins. In London, we'd be paying £5,000 a month for rent and bills and more than £3,000 for childcare, which would leave us with little to save for a deposit to create the home in my city that I always thought I could have.

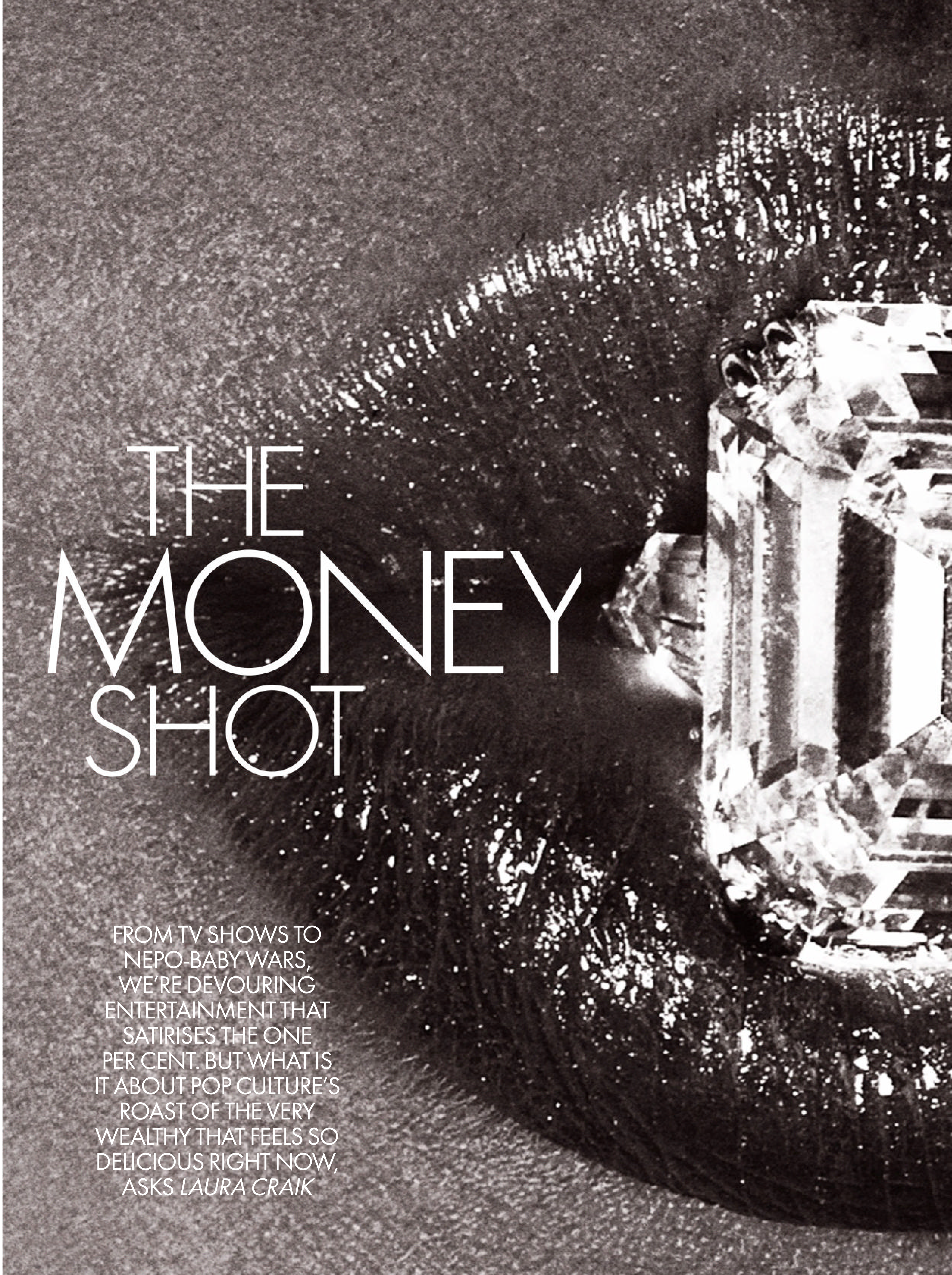
My grandparents came to London as part of the Windrush generation 75 years ago. This year is also the 75th anniversary of the NHS, where many of the people that came to Britain back then got jobs. The fact that the children of this working generation are unable to afford homes, due to not having access to privilege having lived through systemic racism, only adds to the scandal.

The system requires dismantling to allow for parents to work, rather than one parent's salary paying for childcare while the other pays for spiralling household costs. With the average annual London wage at £57,400 and full-time childcare costs that can be as high as £20,000 per child, it's a miracle there are any working parents at all.

Every month I go to London for 10 days for work. While the time alone to focus on the job and see friends is amazing, being away from my family in Berlin feels like a big sacrifice and, despite the pros, it would be better if we all lived in the same place.

And while we are lucky that we can save to one day afford a house, and are fortunate to live in a brilliant city with fantastic schools, nurseries and culture, there is really no place like home. And I miss it every day. ☐

'WHAT STARTED OFF AS A POLITICAL MOVE QUICKLY BECAME A FINANCIAL ONE'



THE MONEY SHOT

FROM TV SHOWS TO NEPO-BABY WARS, WE'RE DEVOURING ENTERTAINMENT THAT SATIRISES THE ONE PER CENT. BUT WHAT IS IT ABOUT POP CULTURE'S ROAST OF THE VERY WEALTHY THAT FEELS SO DELICIOUS RIGHT NOW, ASKS *LAURA CRAIK*

WHEN I WAS A CHILD, I WAS GIVEN A tape recorder as a present. I taped everything. The radio (illegal). Me singing along to the radio (should have been illegal). And once, accidentally, my mother. 'We can't all live in Ravelston like the Browns,' she'd said – an innocuous comment to me, but not to her. 'Erase that,' she commanded. 'What if they hear it?'

'They won't hear it,' I laughed. 'How will they hear it?' But my mother was adamant, so it was erased.

Ravelston was a posher Edinburgh neighbourhood than ours. The Browns had moved there from our street after Mr Brown got a promotion in the impenetrably opaque finance job that all men seemed to do. They'd recently invited us for lunch, and while they were still the same kind, down-to-earth people, their new house was fancy, with high ceilings, six bedrooms and a carp pond. 'Thick skirting boards,' my mother had noted, on the bus home. 'And beautiful cornicing.' Pause. 'But a bugger to heat.'

I was reminded of this conversation as I watched *Fleishman Is in Trouble*, one of a slew of recent TV shows and films satirising the rich. The screen adaptation of Taffy Brodesser-Akner's novel is about many things, including the endless oneupmanship of wealth, and the unhappiness that lies beneath the outward trappings of the extremely wealthy. Too much is never enough, and never will be – a theme also explored in *The White Lotus*, which invites you to envy the characters' lifestyle and hate their entitlement but also to feel peculiarly sorry for them.

WE TELL OURSELVES THAT THE LIVES OF THE ONE PER CENT ARE STRESSFUL

Imagine drinking Veuve Cliquot at breakfast before nodding off on your sun-lounger, your diamonds glinting in the sun – yet still feeling empty inside.

My mother's comments all those years ago unwittingly expressed how people who aren't rich feel about people who are. We are envious, but also conflicted – or tell ourselves we are. If we are lucky enough to be included, we will always accept an invitation to dip into their world. We will enjoy the experience and, afterwards, it will linger deliciously in the memory. But when we recount it, there will always be a sting. 'Oh, it was a beautiful house. But a bugger to heat.'

Rather than being bitchy, the caveat is there to console ourselves that the lives of the one per cent aren't perfect either. Their heating bills *are* huge. That they can afford them is irrelevant: the point is that the more you earn, the more you spend – and the more you have, the more you are responsible for. Heavy is the head that wears the crown, to paraphrase either Shakespeare or Stormzy, depending on your age. Since we may never emulate the rich, we tell ourselves that their lives are complicated and stressful.

This is the message hammered home by the avalanche of films, TV shows and cultural commentary currently preoccupied with examining the wealthy and powerful through a critical lens. Rich is the new black, the hot topic du jour, its accoutrements satirised either mercilessly or humorously. If you want to laugh at people who pay hundreds of pounds for a globule of foam, there's *The Menu*. If you want to remind yourself that billionaires have f*cked-up families too, there's *Succession*. If you want to remember that rich people aren't actually cleverer or wiser than you are, there's *Glass Onion*. If you want to remind yourself that the one per cent are often more unhappy than you are, there's *Triangle of Sadness*.

That these epic takedowns are proliferating now is no surprise, even if the trend has been gaining momentum since 2016, when a former reality-TV star was elected 45th President of the United States. Like Elon Musk and Jeff Bezos, Donald Trump invites both parody and forensic examination. So it's hardly surprising that a whole genre has sprung up devoted to lampooning men like these.

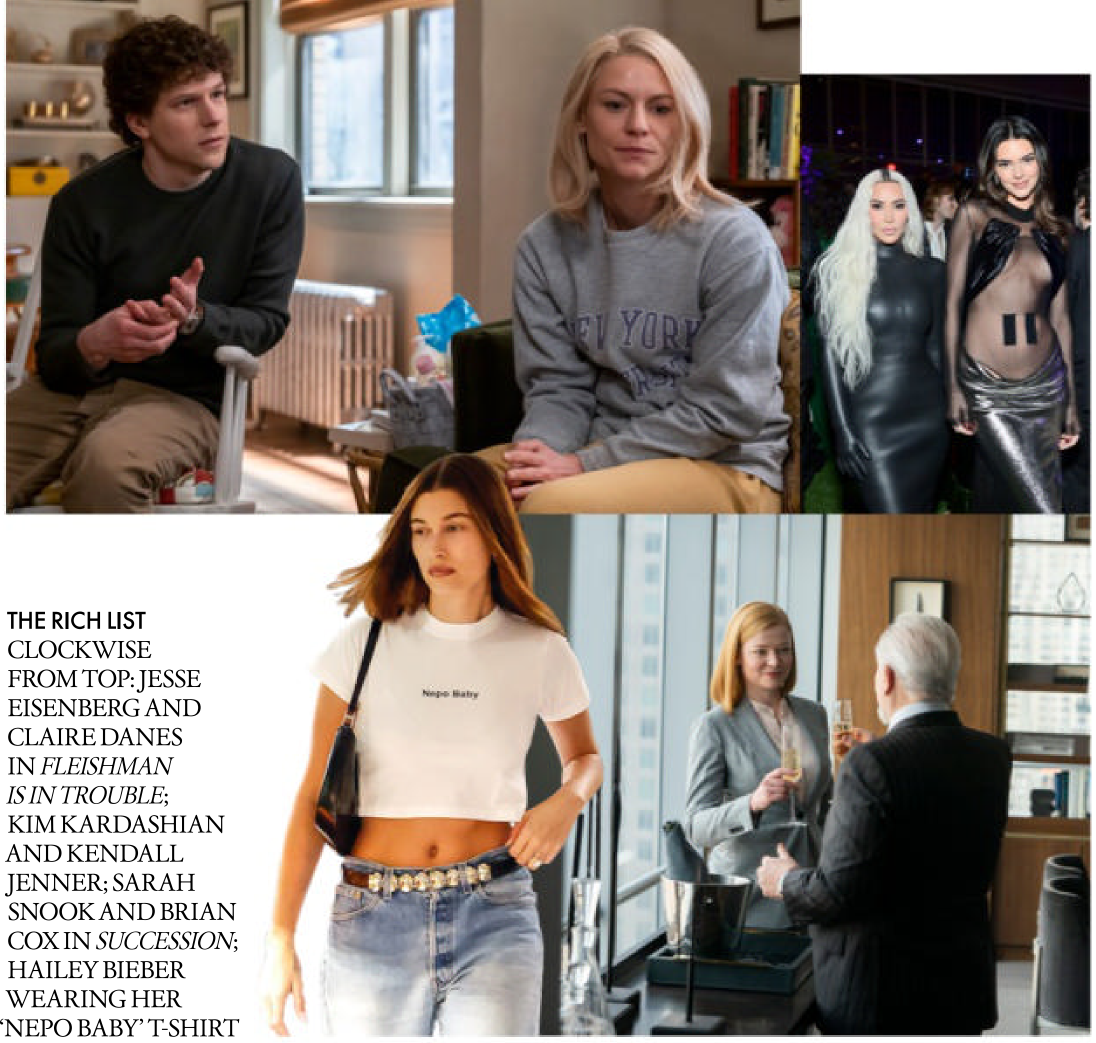
It's also unsurprising that the increasingly outrageous, morally questionable behaviour of the super-wealthy has resulted in the phrase 'eat the rich' making a comeback. First attributed to the political philosopher and writer Jean-Jacques Rousseau, who, during the French Revolution, opined 'When the people shall have nothing more to eat, they will eat the rich,' it was chanted by protesters following the death of George Floyd in 2020. On TikTok, #eattherich currently has 850.6 million views.

With wealth inequality widening by the day, we are constantly reminded that the pandemic only united us for its duration – and, even then, the rich still escaped its worst constricts by jetting off (privately) to sunny climes, or bending the rules imposed on the rest of us. We stood on our doorsteps clapping for carers who the government claimed to respect, though not enough to give them a pay rise. During the pandemic, the 10 richest people on the planet doubled their wealth, making them richer than the poorest three billion in the world put together. According to the 2022 *Forbes* World's Billionaires List, Elon Musk's wealth shot up from $24.6bn to $219bn from 2020 to 2022, while Jeff Bezos' wealth increased from $113bn to $171bn.

Millions of people far less wealthy than these men are inured to the horrific upward spiral of gas and oil costs, which have affected food prices, which in turn are giving the poorest people in our country sleepless nights.

As someone who has dipped a toe into the world of the ultra-wealthy (as a fashion editor, I spent many years covering the Paris couture shows and their attendant dinners and parties, cheek by jowl with the 0.001 per cent), I can both recognise their foibles and afford to laugh at them. I doubt whether a person on universal credit (£334.91 per month if you're single and over 25) would be so well-disposed. 'I can't watch *The White Lotus*,' says Imani Roberts, a nurse. 'I won't be able to afford a holiday this year. The last thing I want to do in my downtime is be reminded of what I'm missing.'

Like Roberts, many people have lost patience with conspicuous consumption, made all the worse by apparent blindness to privilege. When *New York* magazine ran a cover story about nepo babies last December, it sparked a global conversation, with camps coming out either for or against them. Hailey Bieber (father:



THE RICH LIST CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: JESSE EISENBERG AND CLAIRE DANES IN *FLEISHMAN IS IN TROUBLE*; KIM KARDASHIAN AND KENDALL JENNER; SARAH SNOOK AND BRIAN COX IN *SUCCESSION*; HAILEY BIEBER WEARING HER 'NEPO BABY' T-SHIRT

Stephen Baldwin) owned it by donning a 'Nepo Baby' T shirt, while Eve Hewson (father: Bono) owned it in a less Hollywood way by saying, 'If I can't laugh at myself… well then I really am a privileged c*nt.' No amount of criticism will stop nepotism in its tracks: Hollywood is founded on parental privilege, as is the British film industry, the modelling industry, the finance industry and more.

Including the media – as *Succession* brilliantly explores. First released in 2018 and now in its fourth season, *Succession* is a particularly noteworthy example of the 'eat the rich' genre because it both predates the pandemic and has survived it, and its storylines reflect this. While it holds up a mirror to modern life, however outlandish its plots, real life has a habit of exceeding them. Disgraced politician Matt Hancock appearing in *I'm a Celebrity*, promising to donate a portion of his fee to charity then giving a scant 3% is a plot *Succession*'s writers would have rejected as too unbelievable – as is the prospect of Trump standing for re-election.

However deft the satire, real-world events constantly remind us that reality can still exceed the writers' best efforts. Take *The Menu*, the black comedy that sends up the fine-dining scene with dark, devastating aplomb. When the film's main character, Chef Slowik (Ralph Fiennes), serves up his 'breadless bread plate', some diners are horrified, others enraptured. *The Menu* premiered in 2022: its director could never have known that, four months later, one of the restaurants that best exemplifies the hubris of fine dining, Noma, would announce it was to close in 2024. 'It's unsustainable,' chef René Redzepi told *The New York Times* in January. 'Financially and emotionally, as an employer and a human being, it just doesn't work,' he added of the lauded Copenhagen restaurant where dinner costs more than £400 without wine.

Whether Redzepi watched *The Menu*, wept, considered turning his salty tears into a jus then decided against it, we will never know. But at a time when more people than ever are having to choose between heating or eating, there's something particularly immoral about a £500 meal lovingly prepared for customers who might not even appreciate it. 'It's cod, you donkey,' screams Chef Slowik at a customer so rich that he can't even remember how many times he's visited, much less what he ate. However pompous the dishes are in *The Menu*, they fail to exceed that of the trompe l'oeil beetle that once featured at Noma. An unpaid intern spoke of how she was charged with assembling these creatures, which were made of fruit leather cut from stencils then pinned into a glass box. That she'd allegedly been 'forbidden to laugh' during their assemblage is another reminder that, while you might be able to eat the rich, it is far harder to lampoon them. (A spokeswoman for Noma told the *New York Times* that the intern's story 'does not reflect our workplace or the experience we wish for our interns or anyone on our team.')

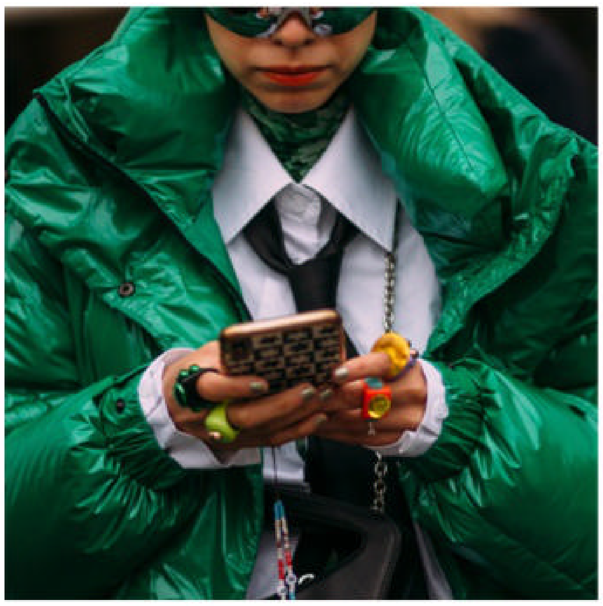
This is why so many films have failed adequately to satirise the fashion industry, from *Pret-A-Porter* (1994) to *The Devil Wears Prada* (2006) – a hit that, while enjoyable, didn't touch the sides in terms of documenting the industry's worst behaviours and excesses. One of my favourite scenes in *Triangle of Sadness* involves fashion-show guests being told to move seats in order to accommodate the late arrival of a famous person. Some are literally sat upon, while the person at the end of the bench simply slides off and is left to sit on the floor. Far-fetched? No: these things actually happen. Both have happened to me.

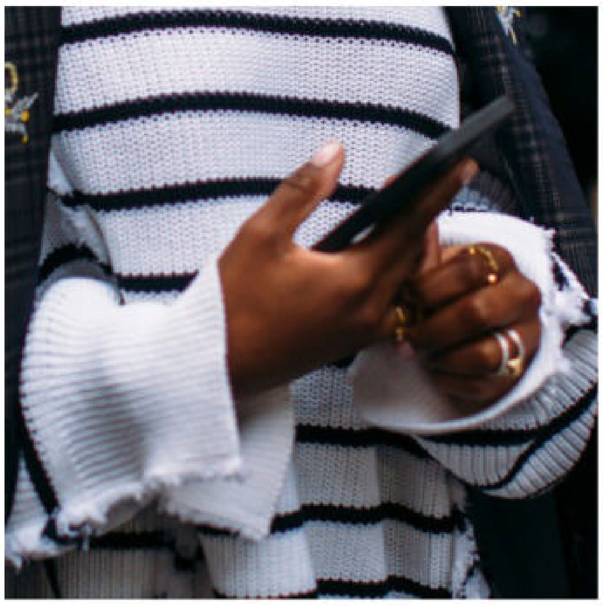
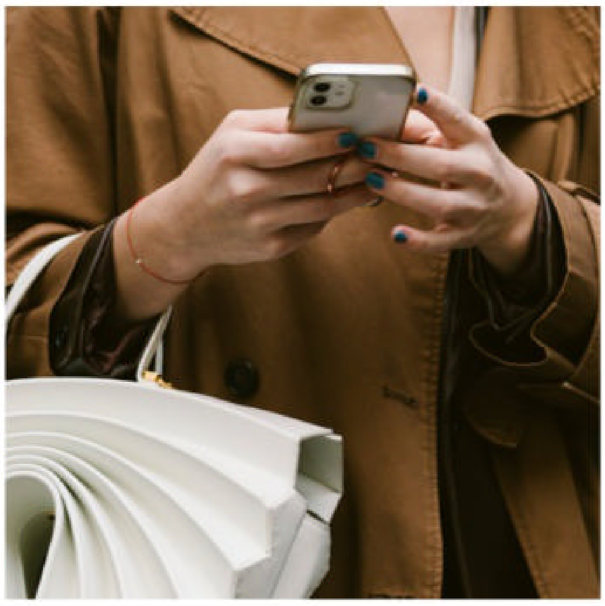
If the trappings of power and privilege can lead to entitled and vile behaviour, why do so many still aspire to it? This was a question on *Succession*'s Brian Cox's mind when I interviewed him earlier this year. 'I'd been living in this Logan Roy [Cox's media-tycoon character] bubble, and needed a cold shower,' he said, explaining what had motivated him to create *How the Other Half Live*, a documentary about the growing wealth gap. 'The rich have no sense of what the world really is, and very little care. The greed imperative is so strong, and has never been stronger. Money has become the new god. Yet money is also the cause of so much unhappiness.'

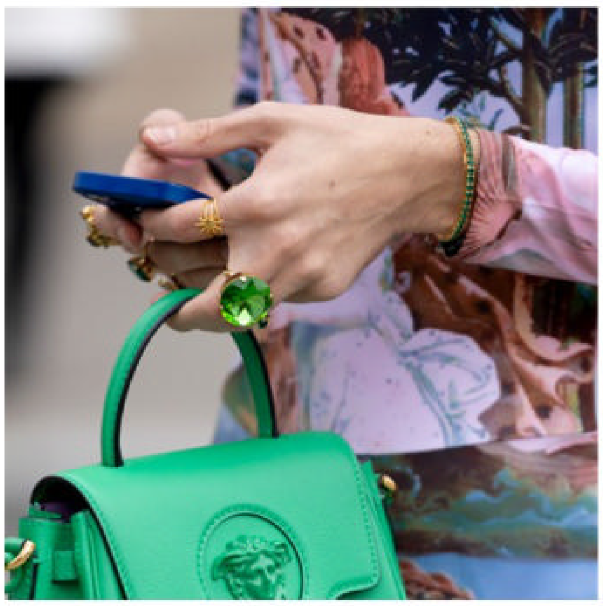
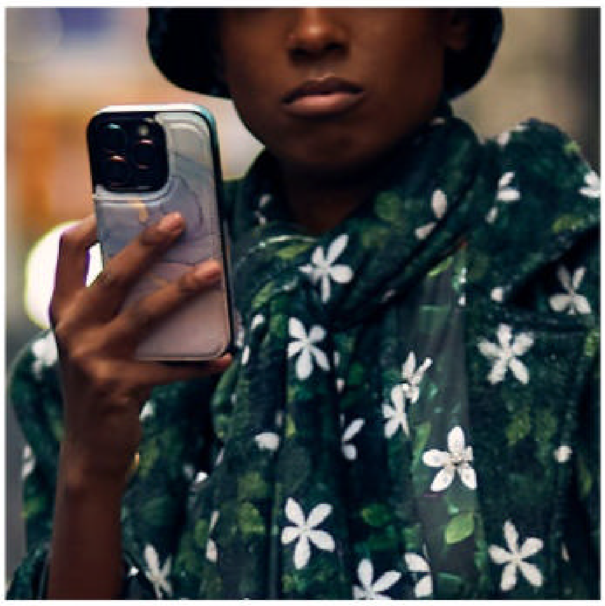
Never was a truer word spoken, nor a theory more thoroughly analysed on film and TV. I don't idolise the rich but I do envy their trappings. More than the cars, clothes and Cliquot, though, I envy their headspace and freedom. They can try things and fail. They can sleep in till noon. They can live free from the tedious life admin binding the rest of us. They can buy themselves out of anything, like Lydia Millen, an influencer with 1.2 million Instagram followers, who checked into The Savoy because her boiler broke.

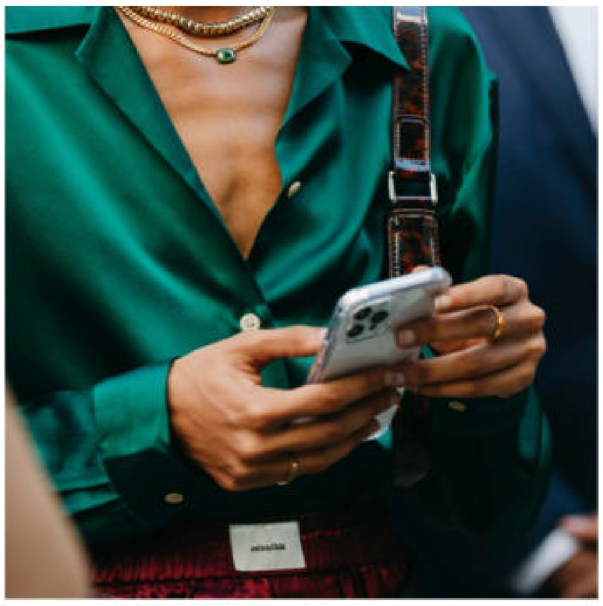
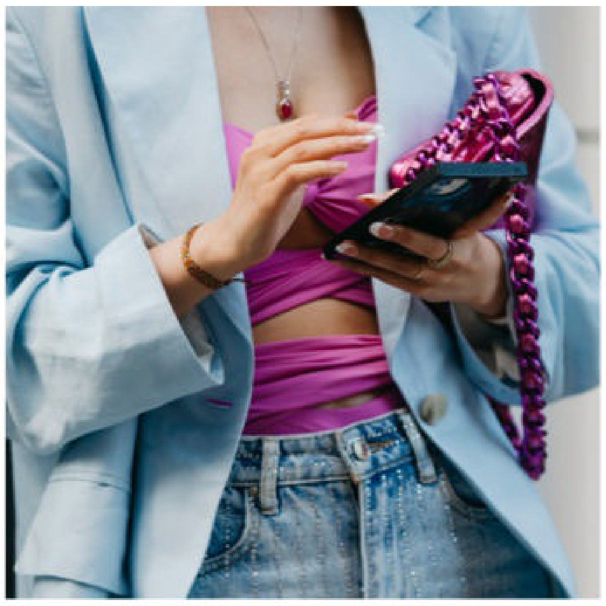
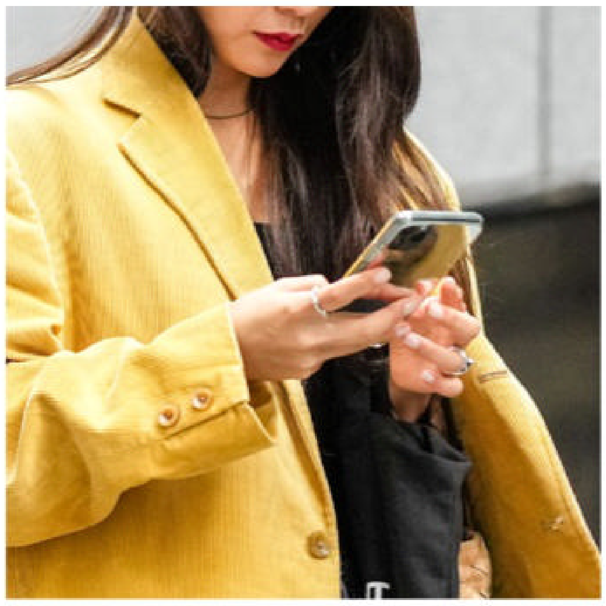
'A million one, a million two/A hundred more will never do,' Frank Ocean sang on his 2013 single *Super Rich Kids*. Ten years on, the only thing that's changed is that the rich are even richer. All we have to console ourselves with is their dissatisfaction. For as long as script writers mine this theme, they'll have an audience. We may want to live in their mansions. But we still like to think they are 'a bugger to heat'. ☐

PHOTOGRAPHS: PREVIOUS PAGES: CHRIS HEADS/TRUNK ARCHIVE. THESE PAGES: COPYRIGHT 2022, FX NETWORKS. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED, GETTY IMAGES, © 2019 HOME BOX OFFICE, INC, ALL RIGHTS RESERVED



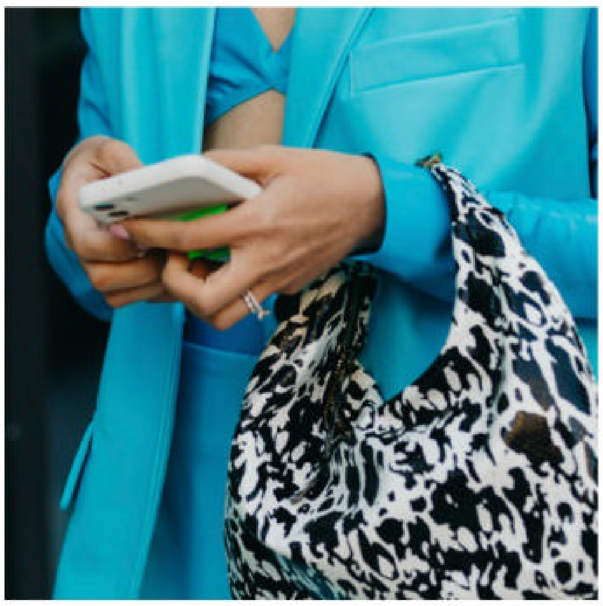
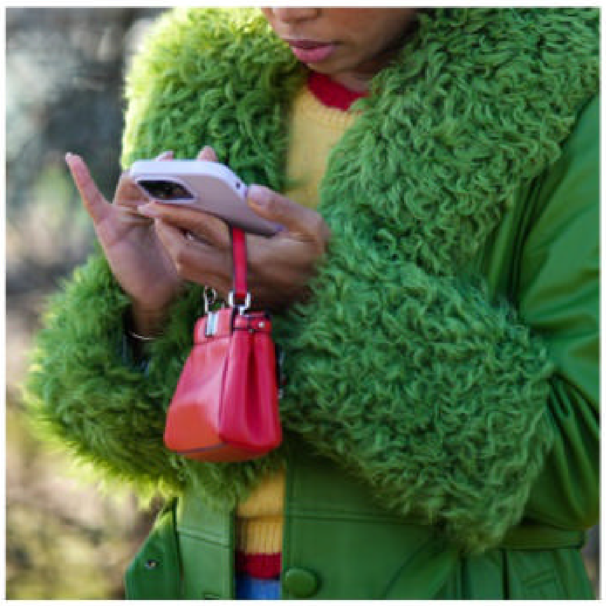



'YOU WERE ADDED TO THE GROUP'

GROUP CHATS WERE A LIFELINE DURING THE PANDEMIC BUT, AS SOCIALISING RESUMED, MANY WERE LEFT BURIED IN WHATSAPP ARCHIVES. NOW, THEY'RE BACK. *SARA McALPINE* EXPLORES THEIR POST-PANDEMIC REBIRTH – AND WHY THEY'RE LOUDER THAN EVER

THE GROUP CHAT DIED. OR SO HALF A DOZEN MEDIA OP-EDS, published last year, would have you believe. 'All conversations must eventually come to an end,' *The New York Times* argued, referring to those exchanges started during the pandemic, when the steady stream of texts, voice notes and memes lighting up our phones via iMessage, Facebook or WhatsApp (likely all three), was a lifeline. During lockdown, the group chat was the panacea for our social-life blues. But then the world woke up again. We ditched freezing parks for pubs and swapped tracksuit bottoms for Y2K bumsters. 'Keep your distance' signs started to look quaint and, yes, we might've happily killed off more than a few groups.

Exhausted by the relentless pinging and the pressure to respond, or guilt from ghosting because you can't possibly keep up (Facebook Messenger reports that over 2.5 million groups are created on the platform *every day*, with an average of 10 members each), many claimed that we had reached peak chat.

Emerging from the constant notifications, however, it became clear to me that not all group chats are created equal. Do I want to keep accidentally clicking one of 2,395,857 quickfire messages about the communal bins in my apartment block when I'm trying to scroll Instagram in peace? No. That group is on mute – for a year. Some groups I've felt obliged to remain in for standard updates, or reassurance that the fire alarms in my building are only going off due to Flat Four's cremated dinner. These are the kinds of groups you can easily get away with lurking in, rather than adding to – like sharing a lift with a stranger, no one's going to whinge if you don't start a conversation about today's weather.

But, separate to this, there's a world of chat enjoying a post-pandemic boom in the groups that resemble the kinds of IRL conversations we have with friends. 'Because life has gone back to normal, there isn't time to indulge in long calls or chats like we did during the pandemic – you steal a moment between Zoom calls or lunches, and engage as and when you want to without pressure. It's casual and fun again,' says Lynette Nylander, an ELLE contributing editor and writer based between London and New York. A co-conspirator in a committed group of *Real Housewives* fans called The Blogs (an IYKYK name for fans of the Potomac edition), we've both witnessed what makes a 'good' chat and why some conversations will never die. The context shifts, new partners enter the mix, people and opinions change. However different it might look, for many the group chat is back and popping.

What's more, its influence is increasingly pervasive. Celebrities including Taylor Swift, Jennifer Lawrence, and Emma Stone refer to inside gags born of group texts on talk shows. N Sync and the *Harry Potter* cast say it helps them stay constantly and casually in touch. Even the royal family has a chat (but perhaps that one has permanently gone quiet). Authors shout out their WhatsApp groups in their book acknowledgments and Quinta Brunson thanked 'my group text, The Butts' when she won a Golden Globe this year.

The late Virgil Abloh, founder of Off-White and former artistic designer for Louis Vuitton menswear, often did what he described as 'designing by committee' in WhatsApp groups. Details from the Off-White group chat were even turned into promotional material before shows, and Abloh celebrated an anniversary with Nike by publishing a group text where participants shared images, memories and more about the Dunk trainers.

Despite the dread of picking up your phone and realising you have hundreds of unread messages, our hyper-connectivity isn't always considered a negative. 'What we see in research is that people find a lot of positives in this "online-ness",' says Dr Joanne Meredith, a senior lecturer in psychology at the University of Wolverhampton, and an expert in how we interact with each other online. According to her, the group chat's renaissance has a lot to do with identity and organising around our interests, much like traditional forums and message boards.

A quick scan of someone's groups might reveal more about a person than they're happy to admit – that they commit a large part of their week to every franchise of certain American reality shows, or that their stern exterior belies their commitment to affirmations memes and pictures of dogs in onesies... Where else could I consult 124 owners of Italian greyhounds, only two of whom I've met, on the healthy bowel habits of a five-month-old puppy? Where else could I give Teresa Giudice's wedding hair the attention and analysis it deserves? These are conversations I might be reluctant to start with colleagues or casual friends, lest their assessment of me immediately be: 'She's basic.' Group chats are a safe space to indulge those interests. The good ones are, at least.

'All the good chats – the liveliest ones – have quite a specific theme or a function,' says Nylander. Other groups she's in include: 'Financially Fancy and Free', committed to being fiscally responsible in 2023; 'Black Car, Fag, J Sheeky', named after a much-memed pap-shot of Kate Moss, dedicated to 'slaggy and salacious gossip, celebrity or otherwise'; and a series of chats set up for work projects.

A person's groups can be delightfully disparate and wide-ranging. These neatly organised, often entertainingly named chats can also be appealing in a digital landscape that can often feel chaotic. 'Platforms like WhatsApp give people more

> IT HELPS PEOPLE RALLY AND MOBILISE AT A TIME WHEN CONNECTING WITH COMMUNITIES IS KEY

PREVIOUS PAGES: PHOTOGRAPHS: GETTY IMAGES, IMAXTREE

THE GROUP CHAT IS STILL A BUSH NETWORK FOR 'DELICIOUSLY DESPICABLE' RUMOURS AND INTRIGUE

control and allow people to manage what is a very complex interaction in a really simple way,' Dr Meredith says. With group chats, everything is largely in its place, ready for you to jump back in at a time that suits you. More than that, though, it helps people to rally and mobilise at a time when connecting with communities is key.

'It's very much about organising for me – a tool,' says Nate Agbetu, a UK-based creative who has arranged a number of community-based projects using group chats, such as Gaia's Garden, which regenerated inner-city green spaces with the Mayor of London's support. 'I wouldn't say the group chat is dead, but there's got to be a really good reason for one to exist. I've used them to organise a guerilla group for putting up posters surrounding elections and for healing groups. I think the ones that revolve around activities are great and stay alive because they connect us IRL.'

WhatsApp – which remains one of the most-used platforms in the world, with over a billion active users – has made major changes to group-chat functions, having recognised just that. The messaging app, owned by Facebook parent company Meta, quadrupled its group-size limit due to popular demand twice last year (from 256 people to 1024) before introducing an even larger Community feature geared to 'supporting the groups that are part of our daily lives' – schools, sports clubs, religious congregations, and more. The influence of the group chat is spilling off-screen, impacting both community and culture beyond it.

Amid the organisation, there's often a happy exchange of playlists and other discussions. It's not meant to be formal; it's fun. Which is what makes the group chat an 'anything goes' space that can inspire a huge amount of creativity (and, yes, using iMessage's 'mark-up' tool to mock up a *Love Island* meme counts as creativity, too).

This very article was born out of a WhatsApp group called 'Park Life' – a chat that started with the intention of setting up a park reunion for ELLE staffers old and new, but has evolved into a space to talk about anything and everything in culture. But let's not get it twisted. Beyond the culturally important stuff, the group chat is still a bush network for deliciously despicable rumours and intrigue.

Asked what makes a good chat, a fashion-editor friend who shall remain unnamed replied 'memes, laughter and GOSSIP'. Her favourite groups? 'A *Love Island*-turned-fashion one and another solely dedicated to gossip. Both because they involve gossip. Did I mention gossip? Gossip is key,' she says. But it's not always *idle* gossip. Recently, and without risking libel, I could quickly fact-check rumours that the creative director of a major fashion house was on the out, piecing together scraps from multiple groups featuring a mix of fellow writers and editors, PR people, and members of the design team. One group is entertainingly named 'Getting Word That…' with the sole purpose of getting a temperature check on rumours and spreading hot goss.

Does Dr Meredith believe the group chat could ever die? 'From a psychological perspective, we have a need to belong to groups, and connect through conversation, whether those groups are organised online or offline. So, I find it difficult to imagine that a group chat or a way of organising groups online is going to suddenly disappear,' she says with certainty. Even post-lockdown, we're still living atomised lives. The group chat is our watercooler, town square and village hall combined – and we need it now more than ever. ☐

THE NEW RULES

HERE'S HOW TO KEEP THE CONVERSATION GOING

1 **READ THE ROOM** 'Participants develop the norms they expect. They may not be explicit, but people recognise them over time,' says Dr Meredith. When the terms of engagement are misunderstood, for example ghosting in a busy group, things can flop.

2 **BE ADDITIVE** Add to the conversation or get out, Nylander suggests. Whatever the pace of the chat, whether it's popping or a sporadic exchange, offer something other than a reactive emoji. Otherwise, what's the point?

3 **SOUND ON** Voice notes are welcome – nay, encouraged, particularly when you have a spicy hot take that you don't want copied and pasted or shared as a screen shot. Sometimes thoughts don't need to be seen by everyone…

4 **SHARE, DON'T SPAM** No one wants to return to their phone, after leaving it for only five minutes, to see 350 unread messages. Add to the conversation, yes, but maybe avoid sharing every three-word thought as and when it strikes.

5 **RESPECT THE SAFE SPACE** The best groups are a safe space for salacious gossip and some of our more stupid thoughts. That's what makes them so much fun. Respect the sanctity of the chat, and then really let loose.

myBlend
POWER OF SYNERGIES
NUTRI + DERMA + TECH
myBlend
NUTRI YOUTH
FOOD SUPPLEMENT
myBlend
REVITALIZING CREAM
LA CRÈME RÉGÉNÉRANTE
myBlend
FIRMNESS
FERMETÉ
myBlend
RADIANCE
ÉCLAT

myBlend, a personalised beauty concept that stimulates the body's natural mechanisms: combining nutri-cosmetics to target the skin from the inside, derma-cosmetics to nourish and correct skin from the outside, and high-tech devices to optimise the formulas' results.

Our highly-concentrated Revitalizing 4-Peptide Cream nourishes and acts on all factors responsible for skin ageing, stimulating the skin's natural mechanisms by preserving the balance of its microbiota. Skin appears smoother, firmer and, as though regenerated. Wrinkles and fine lines are less apparent. Skin is hydrated for 24-hours*, nourished and visibly more beautiful.

Discover more at **www.my-blend.co.uk**

*Clinical Study, 25 women.

ELLE

BEAUTY + WELLNESS

FEELIN' GOOD

DISCOVER BEAUTY THAT STARTS FROM THE INSIDE WITH OUR DEEP DIVE INTO SUPPLEMENTS, FROM THOSE THAT GIVE SERIOUS GLOW TO THOSE YOU CAN FORGO. (AND FOR THE MONEY SAVED FROM NOT BUYING UNNECESSARY PILLS, FIND OUT WHAT THE *ELLE* EDITORS THINK ARE THE REAL LUXURY MUST-HAVES...)

PHOTOGRAPH: IMAXTREE

COLLAGE BY ADAM HALE AT THE DAILY SPLICE

PILLS, PILLS, PILLS

SUPPLEMENTS FOR HAIR, SKIN, AND GENERAL HEALTH HAVE NEVER BEEN BIGGER BUSINESS. BUT DO THE RESULTS MATCH THE PROMISE? *JENNIFER GEORGE* SWALLOWS THE TRUTH

TWO YEARS AGO, I WAS WRITING A PIECE for ELLE for which I had to have a blood test. I didn't need it, I felt fine, but the feature was about my hormone levels, so in the name of duty I stuck out my arm and let them stick in a needle (harder than it sounds, since I'm venephobic and pass out every time I have blood taken). When the results came back the doctor asked me if I was taking iron supplements (no), vitamin C (no) or even a multivitamin (no). I was a bit alarmed – surely I was meant to be the one asking the questions? 'Your levels of ferritin [a blood protein that contains iron and indicates how much your body stores] are about 20 times higher than normal. I think we should test you for haemochromatosis.'

This chronic disorder results in your body storing too much iron, which can build up in your organs over time, carrying a risk of damage and, ultimately, organ failure. It's genetically inherited (meaning I was born with it) and in its early stages doesn't have symptoms. It isn't uncommon either: it's thought that 1 in 150 people in England and Wales have it, with many going undiagnosed. Without that fateful blood test I might have gone decades without knowing – most sufferers only find out when it gets bad enough to cause noticable symptoms. And forgive the dramatics, but if I had ever self-dosed on iron or vitamin C supplements (vitamin C encourages the body to absorb and retain iron), I could have gone into liver failure. It's one of the reasons I get so frustrated when I meet representatives of supplement brands who tell me I 'must' take their product. They don't know what's going on inside my body or, for that matter, anyone else's.

I know mine is an extreme example, but it taught me a valuable lesson in approaching any quasi-medical treatment with caution. Though, with almost 40% of us now taking vitamins or supplements daily, including good old multi-vits, targeted tinctures, liquid probiotics and ▷

slumber-inducing gummies, I'm becoming more unusual. The market in the UK is now estimated to be worth £520m and is predicted to grow by over 10% this year, meaning many of us will be jumping on the bandwagon. In almost all cases, no harm will be done. But, even so, how much of it – if any – do we actually *need*?

The short answer is, most likely, none, 'unless you're suffering from a specific medical condition or are proven deficient in a vitamin or mineral,' says Dr Shameer Mehta, consultant gastroenterologist and the lead for clinical nutrition at The Royal London Hospital. 'If you're following good health principles – a diverse diet, meeting nutritional goals, moving your body – there is no evidence that taking any supplement of any kind is of benefit.' He adds that of the few studies that have been done, 'The ones that have any kind of placebo control, which is what you really want to see, show high rates on both sides. When I see patients who are on supplements for no good reason, I have to challenge that.'

There are exceptions: 60% of the UK population is believed to have insufficient levels of vitamin D (essential for immunity and bone health, amongst other things) and there are now government guidelines to say that, in the winter months, all adults should take a vitamin D supplement. For anyone following a vegan diet, supplementing with vitamin B12 is advised, because it's not available from plants and low levels can cause anaemia and nerve damage. And there are specific medical reasons, too: if you have osteoporosis you might take calcium, or iron for anaemia.

This all sounds like a case for making some space on your kitchen worktop by binning the pill pots, but there is a counter-argument. Yes, we *should* be getting all of our vitamins and minerals from our food, but with 49% of UK adults saying that money concerns make it harder to follow a nutritionally rich diet, supplements (even after taking their cost into account) can be a cheaper option for reaching your health goals. 'Supplements should be just that: supplementary to the foods we eat,' says Kay Ali, a clinical nutritionist and associate member of the Royal Society of Medicine, 'and even with the best willpower in the world, supporting nutritional gaps in your diet isn't always easy. There are lifestyle factors as well as personal likes and dislikes, access to particular foods, time to prepare meals… This is where supplementation can be really helpful.' Taking a well-formulated multivitamin, she adds, can, 'help establish a daily baseline that supports a balanced and varied diet,' although they shouldn't be seen as a magic wand – nutrition via whole foods should always take precedence. But even if you are getting your five a day, it might be that you're looking to 'level up', especially when it comes to improving things like sleep, skin and stress levels.

'Supplements are not the enemy,' Dr Mehta says, 'but I'd always advocate for people to be really clear about what they're hoping to achieve. Be aware of the pros and cons, and spend some time researching.' The placebo effect isn't to be dismissed either. If you believe that your 'Happy Healthy' pot of pills *is* making you happier and healthier, and none of its ingredients are actively bad for you, no harm no foul.

'We're all biochemically unique,' concludes Ali, 'therefore, just because a supplement isn't right for another individual, it doesn't mean you won't achieve results. If supplementation is carefully considered, with all advice taken into account, it could be transformative to your health.'

THE SUPPLEMENT FAMILIES

WHETHER IT'S FOR A HAPPIER STOMACH OR DEEPER SLEEP, HERE IS WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW WHEN SIFTING THROUGH WHAT'S ON OFFER…

STOPPING THE SNEEZE

BY KATIE WITHINGTON

1 Zooki Vitamin C, £39.99 for 30 sachets **2** Well.Actually Vitamin D3 + K2 Liposomal Oral Spray Strawberry & Rhubarb, £19.99 **3** Altrient Liposomal Vitamin C Sachets, £49.99 for 30 sachets

1
zooki
VITAMIN C ZOOKI
Citrus Orange
3
Altrient
2

Even if you're not 'into wellness', you will be familiar with the bare bones of vitamin supplementation (i.e. trying to stave off a cold by eating three satsumas). But when it comes to staying well, will a daily multivitamin really cut it?

'Often, we blame germs for causing our illness, rather than addressing weaknesses in our immune system,' says pharmacist Shabir Daya, the co-founder of Victoria Health. 'When researching immunity supplements, the key ingredients to look out for are vitamin D3, vitamin C, zinc and vitamin A.'

If you feel your immune system isn't at its best but aren't sure where to begin, your first step should be obtaining a simple blood test from your GP; this can help them identify any deficiencies, Daya says. He recommends opting for a quality targeted supplement that covers the essential nutrients, as well as adding a probiotic. 'The health of our gut is the cornerstone to our wellbeing, so I always advocate that for our overall benefit.'

1 The Nue Co. Destress 360, £45 **2** Cytoplan Cyto-Night Powder, £18.30 **3** Higher Nature Serotone 5-HTP, £12.95 **4** Lumity Life Morning & Night Female Supplement, £85

AND... RELAX

BY MEDINA AZALDIN

For better sleep and dialling down stress levels, experts agree that lifestyle choices such as limiting screen time, reducing caffeine intake and incorporating regular exercise will make the most difference. But, says nutritional therapist Lucy Miller, 'a supplement could provide beneficial results for when you need extra support during busier or more stressful times.'

Melatonin, the hormone responsible for the body's sleep-wake cycle, is available on prescription to alleviate short-term sleep difficulties; magnesium helps support the nervous system; while glycine is an amino acid that encourages serotonin production for a good night's sleep. Miller's go-to bedtime supplement, Cytoplan Cyto-Night, contains the latter two and Montmorency cherry, a natural source of melatonin. She's also a fan of Higher Nature Serotone 5-HTP. 'It provides the natural amino acid 5-HTP, which helps to support the production of the neurotransmitters important for improving rest.'

Continuous periods of high stress can affect the skin, stomach and hair, which is why The Nue Co.'s CEO and founder Jules Miller recommends taking a probiotic supplement, 'To ensure that you're maintaining a balance of good bacteria in the gut, thus protecting against potential inflammation.' Adaptogens such as ashwagandha are said to be helpful for moderating the body's physical and physiological response to stress. The plant is widely used in Ayurvedic practices and, although clinical research is still in early stages, the results do look promising.

GUT FEELINGS

BY JENNIFER GEORGE

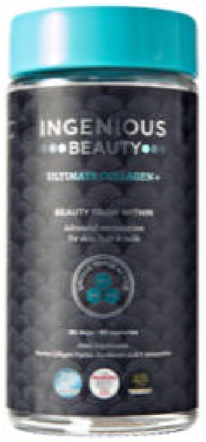
Supplements to aid good gut health, or probiotics, are one of the biggest areas of the wellness sector, with #guthealth reaching over 3.2 billion tags on TikTok. Keeping your gut bacteria in balance impacts the quality of your digestion, immune system and even mood. In fact, a good probiotic could address some issues you're trying to fix with other supplements. 'You want to address the root of imbalances,' says Rhian Stephenson,a qualified nutritionist, naturopath, fitness expert and founder of Artah Health, a programme that includes retreats, meal plans and – you guessed it – supplements. 'Our gut health is essential for everything, so it's one of the most important places to start.'

What you do want in your product is a high quantity of colony-forming units, which indicates the number of bacterial cells in a dose (at least a billion is recommended), and certain strains of bacteria (lactobacillus, bifidobacterium, bacillus and saccharomyces boulardii are among the most researched). 'There are a number of probiotics that don't get past the stomach,' warns Dr Mehta, 'which won't cause any harm, but it means they're essentially inert.'

Most experts that gummies should be avoided, as they will contain sugar or sugar substitutes that may counteract the effects or could increase inflammation. 'I'd bet good money that you'd obtain more beneficial nutrients with similar doses of sugar from indulging in a slice of cake,' says Kay Ali.

1 Artah Health GI Fix, £38 **2** Beauty Pie Supergut, £60 **3** Symprove, from £39.99 per month

Ingenious Beauty Ultimate Collagen, from £48 for a month's supply



GOOD SKIN FROM WITHIN

BY KATY YOUNG

If you are a seasoned skincare shopper or have simply ever uttered the word 'beauty', chances are high the multibillion-dollar collagen industry will have hijacked your algorithm and tried to tout its wares to you.

At first glance, it seems to make sense. From our mid-twenties, natural levels of collagen in the body start to decline – so much so that by 30 we will have lost up to a third. And since collagen is one of the major building blocks in our body, responsible for healthy connective tissues between muscles, bones, joints and – of course – skin, topping up levels of this crucial protein sounds like a beauty no-brainer.

However, you'll quickly discover that not all collagen is created equal. Classified as a food and operating within a still-unregulated industry, this group of supplements can make big claims with little to no clinical data to back them up. Which is crucial when, as with collagen, you're dealing with a substance both volatile and fragile, and incredibly hard to get into our bloodstream.

If it comes in an encapsulated and protected form, collagen peptide is far better placed to make the long journey through our gut and bypass our stomach's acid (where it might otherwise by broken down) to reach our small intestine intact, where it is then absorbed and used effectively.

There is strong data to suggest that taking a clinically-backed collagen supplement regularly can boost not just your skin, hair and nails, but also joint health and exercise performance, as demonstrated in studies by Ingenious Beauty. But if a brand has no clinical back-up for its claims, no amount of celebrity endorsements or online offers can make up the shortfall. As with all beauty booms, truth lies somewhere within the collagen industry, but for now it is up to the consumer to find the real juice. ☐

radar

WORDS BY MEDINA AZALDIN

BOBBI BROWN

In the nude

The more-is-more approach to SS23's eye make-up sees hi-def lips taking a back seat, as neutral tones make a triumphant return both off and on the catwalk. 'Natural lips can keep everything looking soft and fresh, especially when they are slightly dewy with a hint of shine for a soft-focus, plumped effect,' says Polly Osmond, who has painted the faces of Greta Gerwig, Emma Raducanu and Lily Collins. She likes warm brown or berry shades for deep skin tones, and is a fan of Nars lip liner in Lérins on paler complexions. Dab on a cream or satin formula for a more modern finish, or try layering a balm on top of your liner.

From top: Bobbi Brown Luxe Lipstick in Pink Buff, £33. Nars Precision Lip Line in Lérins, £20. Hourglass Unlocked Satin Crème Lipstick in Tide 302, £37.

Go lightly

The newest nourishing moisturisers promise plush luminosity without suffocating oily or combination skin types. Sensitive complexions will soak up Sculpted By Aimee's ceramide-rich, whipped CloudCream, £32; while Biossance Squalane + Vitamin C Rose Moisturizer, £43 (out in May), uses fermented lemon peel to help with discoloration. For a pore-blurring, soft-focus look, try Dior Forever Velvet Veil primer, £40.

FOREVER
DIOR
BIOSSANCE
SQUALANE + VITAMIN C
ROSE MOISTURIZER

Eau so divine

Mugler's Angel was a key 90s fragrance, and now it's back in a new iteration, Elixir, £92. All the showstopping opulence of its predecessor is present, but with an electrifying peppery hit and a dose of AmberXtreme.

BLURRED LINES

Perfection makes way for sheer self-expression as a new brand of beauty rebellion emerges at SS23, with smeared lipsticks, unconventional colour placements and smudged, sooty eyes.

GO NUTS

The most delicious new scents from DS & Durga and Kayali feature decadent amounts of pistachio for a creamy gourmand with a savoury edge.

PERFECT VISION

Eye treatments are having a moment, thanks to our endless screen time and erratic sleep patterns. Look for ceramides, niacinamide and antioxidants to perk up tired peepers.

KAYALI
pistachio
D.S. & DURGA

Beauty barometer

Our guide to the talking points going up and down this month

OVERDONE ARCHES

Hit pause on your next lamination. This season's brows are nonchalant and a little bit undone.

GLAZED... ANYTHING

We're all for ultra-glossy nails, hair and cheekbones, but the sticky-dessert connotations on TikTok? Not so much.

PINK UNDEREYES

Influencers are layering pink blush under the eyes before foundation for reasons still not clear to us. If it's brightening you're after, a colour corrector does the job in half the time.

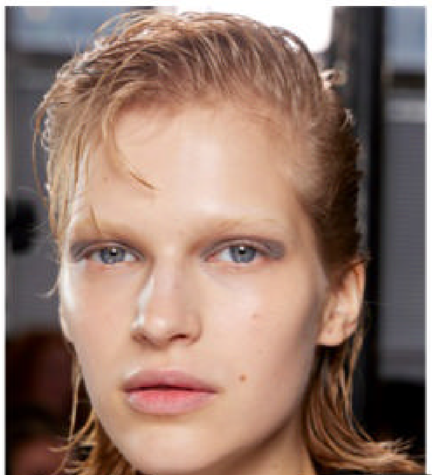
PHOTOGRAPHS: IMAXTREE, GETTY IMAGES

Notes on notes

Spring's unexpected fragrance inspiration is a real page-turner. A pristine mix of sunny mimosa and cottony rice, Diptyque's L'Eau Papier, £90, is inspired by the imaginative potential of a blank piece of paper. Lyn Harris of Perfumer H gives woody perfumes a rewrite with Ink, from £110, using ambroxan to create a refined, smooth finish; while Commodity's Paper+, £120, uses skin-hugging Iso E Super and vetiver to bottle the scent of a well-kept vintage first edition.

diptyque
L'EAU PAPIER
34 boulevard saint germain
paris 5e
COMMODITY
Paper+
INK

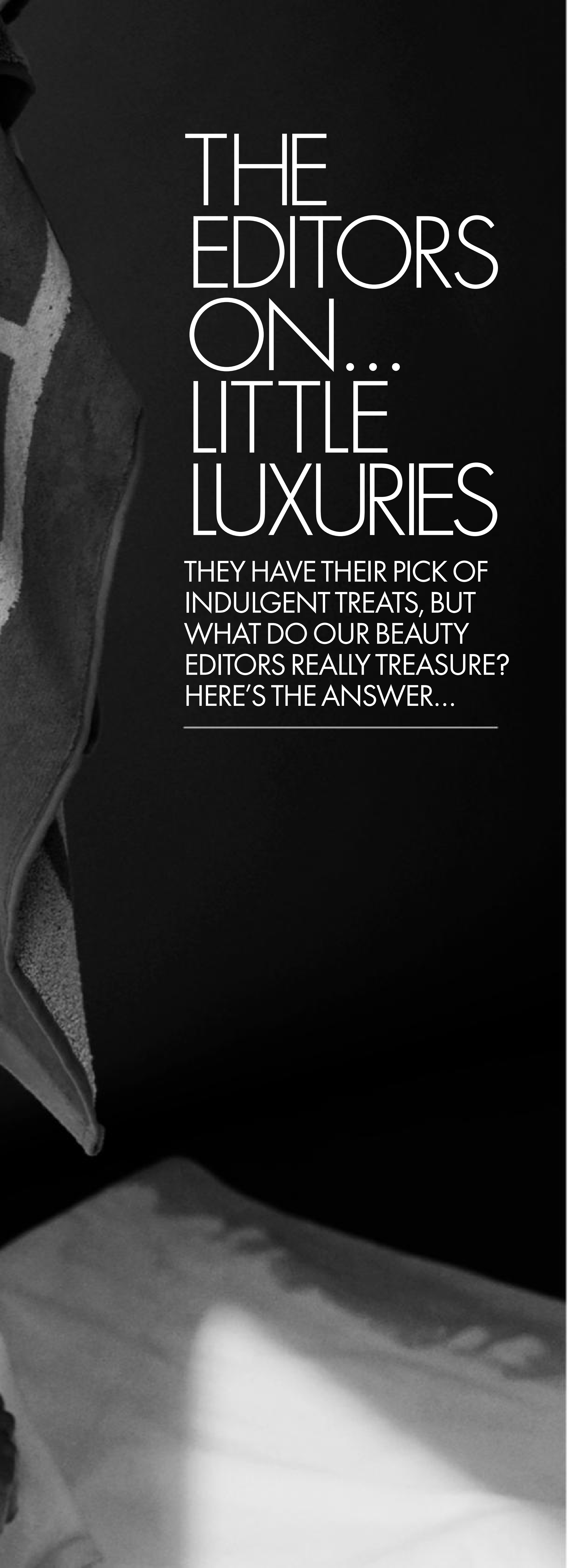
Hair necessities



Bumble and bumble
Bb. Bond-Building
REPAIR OIL SERUM
SELF CONTROL
HAIR BY SAM McKNIGHT

Hair By Sam McKnight Self Control Gel, £22. Bumble and Bumble Bond-Building Repair Oil Serum, £35.

If the current hair-flip renaissance feels a little too Jackie O, go with a grungier take on the trend, as seen at Marni and Dries Van Noten. Sam McKnight went down a rockabilly route for the latter, with wispy baby hairs and a post-shower finish that feels fresher than a sleek Mayfair blow-dry. 'It felt right to have a bit of a tougher masculine silhouette, to offset the beautiful flower prints [of the clothes],' he told ELLE. Mix a small amount of hair gel and hair oil to achieve the right texture without any unwanted crispiness or excess grease.



THE EDITORS ON… LITTLE LUXURIES

THEY HAVE THEIR PICK OF INDULGENT TREATS, BUT WHAT DO OUR BEAUTY EDITORS REALLY TREASURE? HERE'S THE ANSWER…

1 Neal's Yard Women's Balance essential oil, £17 **2** Neom Happiness candle, £37 **3** Aromatherapy Associates Revive candle, £50

KATY YOUNG: ON AROMATHERAPY

AN INSOMNIAC WITH A PROPENSITY TO OVER-THINK, on paper I am the perfect candidate for meditation, breathing exercises and gentle yoga. But all that having to 'let go' just leaves me wanting to, well, hold on, to yet more unhelpful thinking, endless to-do lists and the idea that sleep is impossible. Which is why I have tended to rely heavily on chemicals for any kind of switching off.

But amongst all that tinkering with the circadian rhythm (via whiskey, melatonin, prescription Zopiclone…) there has never been anything so cosseting (and quite frankly, good for me) as my aromatherapy oils. Self-prescribed they may be, but I find that the pure, organic tinctures are just as punchy.

Then there is the ritual I now associate with regulating my mood and energy, which of course you don't get from a blister pack of pills. Taking time to choose, mix and infuse my space with a new blend forces me to stop, slow down and find intention in that ceremony.

As my love, faith and confidence in aromatherapy has grown, so has my collection. I keep small bottles of grounding frankincense and petitgrain by my bed to dab onto my pillow and loosen the grip of redundant worries. And if I didn't quite get my eight hours, some energising sweet orange and fresh rosemary oils pressed onto my chest before a hot shower turns the steam into something wonderfully energising.

Candles do the same for my space, adding a comfort that grounds me – and anyone who walks in the door – instantly. Just as in my twenties I turned on music before I had taken off my coat and put down my keys, now I get a match and light up as soon as I can, picking a candle's fragrance to set the tone, a bit like choosing an album. I have candles for working from home days (Diptyque's Baies), candles for weekends (Neom's Happiness) and candles for winding down (Aromatherapy Associates candles fill a space like no other).

I try and justify the cost by working out that a Diptyque candle costs 90 pence an hour to burn. And that's before it's gone on to transform itself into one of the prettiest make-up brush pots you can find. ▹

MEDINA AZALDIN: ON MANICURES

A STINT AT A STORIED FRENCH fashion house in my early twenties taught me that real luxury can lie in attention to detail. In that hyper-rarefied world, a perfectly sized macaron in the right tone of peachy-but-not-too-salmon pink can make all the difference to a cocktail party. Neither macarons nor cocktail parties feature prominently in my actual real life, but when it comes to grooming, little things can also have a subtle but game-changing effect.

I've never been too precious with my hands. A sanitiser devotee even pre-pandemic, I rarely use washing-up gloves and have a nervous habit of picking at my skin, which leads to peeling and cuts. But then the Big Manicure Renaissance happened, with leading names such as Julia Diogo and Harriet Westmoreland putting simply healthy-looking fingers front and centre. It's not about eye-catching colour or design, but simple care and attention. Given some time and a boxset to binge I can do this myself at home, but treating myself to a gel manicure with Ioanna at Townhouse in London leaves me feeling indisputably luxurious. My nails are still short and my fingers far from model-esque Instagram hands, but post-manicure they look refined, fresh and clean.

MY HANDS HAVE NEVER LOOKED SO REFINED, FRESH AND CLEAN

I'm also recommending So Shell in Soho, London to those who share my love of a neat nail – it's not speedy, but the immaculate finish is worth it. Meanwhile, the J-Mani at Young LDN and Hot Oil Manicure at Agua Spa uses Japanese buffing techniques to create a reflective shine on bare nails. In between gels, a clear, nourishing polish is a DIY way to brighten the tips. Just soften and gently trim the cuticles before applying one or two layers underneath a topcoat.

1
2
3
navy
GIMME STRENGTH restoring nail strengthener NAILS.INC LONDON
Dior NAIL GLOW

1 Dior Nail Glow, £25
2 Navy Pro Tools Helen Fine Cuticle Nips, £58
3 Nails Inc Gimme Strength Restoring Nail Strengthener, £9

1 Fresh Floral Recovery Calming Mask, £24 **2** Pai Skincare Century Flower Barrier Defence Mist, £39 **3** Ranavat Kansa Wand Ayurvedic Facial Massage Tool, £70

1
fresh
FLORAL RECOVERY
CALMING MASK
EVENS SKIN TONE & TEXTURE
30ml - 1floz

2
pai
CENTURY FLOWER
Calm
Lotus & Hyaluronic Acid
Barrier Defence Mist /
Brume Bouclier Protecteur

KATIE WITHINGTON: ON FACIALS

FOR MOST, FACIALS ARE A LUXURY, likely to be an every-now-and-then treat, unless you're on a more rigorous regimen. But while I appreciate the benefits of a professional treatment, including targeting post-blemish texture and sculpting a puffy face, what really makes them worth showing up for more frequently is the soothing facial massage. From kneading the tightly wound knots to releasing weeks of built-up jaw tension, there's nothing that sends me into mellowed bliss like the well-practised fingers of a facialist. The added glow is just a welcome perk.

You might carry tension in your shoulders – I carry mine in my face. While I'm glued to my laptop screen I'll suddenly become aware that I'm gritting my teeth; when I go to the dentist they often point out the effects of years and years of grinding. I do my best to remind myself to unclench my jaw and relax, but recently I've found that, for me, an indulgent, massage-based facial does the trick far better.

SIXTY MINUTES OF MASSAGE OFFERS ME A SMALL WINDOW OF ME-TIME

That's not the only reason I love facials. Sixty minutes of massage, away from my phone, offers me a mini digital-detox and a small window of me-time. The combination of gentle sounds and calming physical stimulation tips me over into a state of real relaxation. This is my kind of meditation.

JENNIFER GEORGE: ON FITNESS

I'M VERY LUCKY IN THIS JOB in that I get sent lots of lovely products to try: serums to make my skin gleam and mascaras to fluff up my lashes. But nothing that arrives on my desk in a neat little package contains a strong core, powerful legs or Meghan-Markle-in-her-second-wedding-dress shoulders. All that I must source elsewhere.

Investing in exercise is an essential expenditure for me, partly because of the mental-health benefits, but also because I like feeling fit and strong, and working out regularly helps me achieve that. The issue is that I have expensive taste in fitness.

I've tried running, many times, but my body doesn't like it (in fact, I was left with a dodgy knee) and my mind doesn't, either. I just can't get past the 'I hate this, I'm tired, I hate this, I'm tired' cycle of thoughts to reach the clear-headed bliss everyone else talks about. I took the Peloton plunge last year and, although I find spinning incredibly dull, I do enjoy the fact you can hop on the bike during your lunch break to get a little sweat on while someone in a crop top shouts encouraging mantras at you.

PERSONAL TRAINING IS A LUXURY I CHOOSE OVER NEW SHOES OR LAVISH DINNERS

The shouting is key, as I'm not at all self-motivated, which is why personal training is a luxury I choose over new shoes or lavish dinners. Artur – my PT, who I've been seeing on and off for years – is now a close friend, but one that happens to scold me if I don't squat low enough and makes me (almost) vomit with exertion in between chats about politics or his dating life. Another indulgence is reformer Pilates, which I swear by for honing and toning but which also strikes the balance between exhausting and meditative. It's very difficult to think about work deadlines when you're holding a one-armed plank.

I'm never in better shape than when I'm consistent with Pilates and PT, and that makes me feel happy. And that is worth parting with my cash for.

1 Lululemon blissfeel 2 trainer, £138 **2** Peloton dumbbells, from £45 per pair **3** Nike Alate Trace sports bra, £49.95

PHOTOGRAPH: PREVIOUS SPREAD: CARLOTTA MANAIGO/TRUNK ARCHIVE

1 Exuviance Professional Bionic Tonic, £39.40 **2** La Mer The Treatment Lotion, £155 **3** Tata Harper Restorative Eye Crème, £113

GEORGE DRIVER: ON SEASONAL TWEAKMENTS

I RECENTLY LOST MY TWEAKMENT VIRGINITY. After years of working in an industry obsessed with the latest products, services and tools to turn back the clock on your face, I decided to take the bull by the horns and book in for my debut Botox. Now, I swear by it. With some caveats.

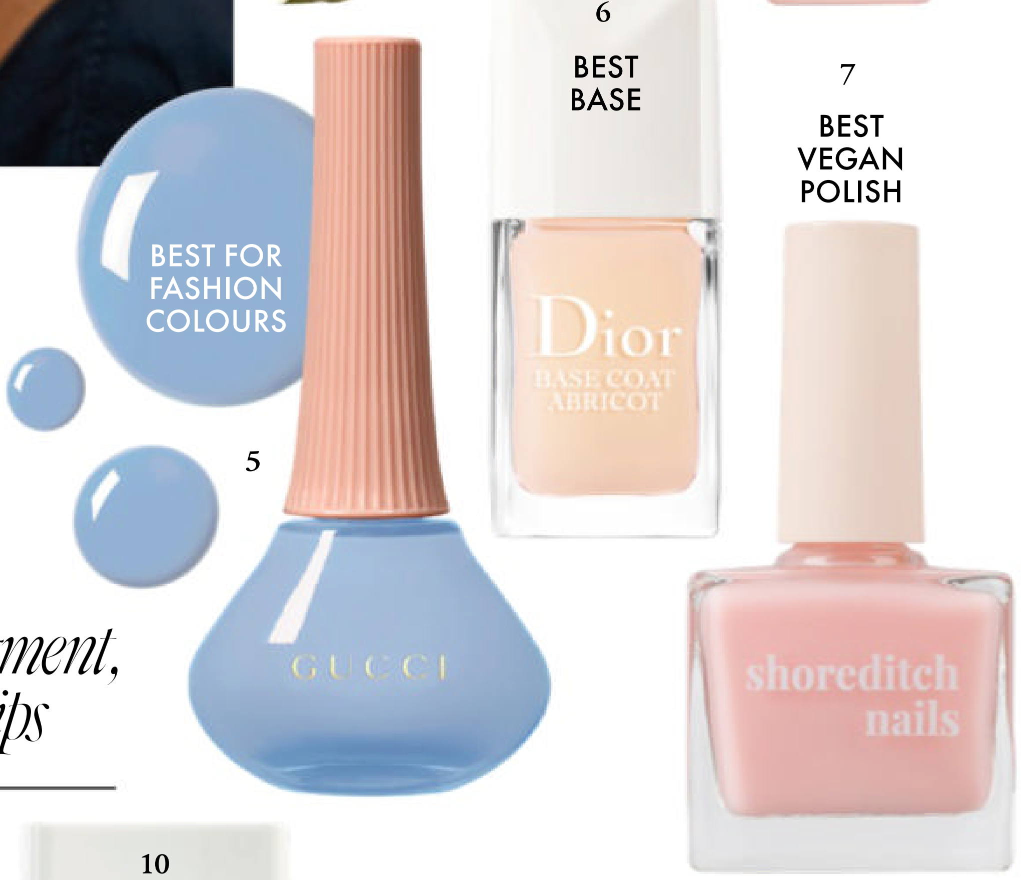
At 32, my face is pretty settled into its resting state – no early-twenties changes still to come. If anything, the (literal) downward trajectory of my complexion has crossed the starting line. So, it felt like the right time to dip my toe into a skincare service that might cost more than your everyday moisturiser, but can offer results a fancy pot of face cream never could.

For me, it's no different from investing in a quality cut and colour. I book in three times a year for a sprinkling of 'baby Botox' (a more subtle technique that uses smaller-dose injections to avoid the dreaded 'frozen' face) around the corners of my eyes and frown lines, which costs around £250 a session. In the same way I get my faux-copper hair coloured in, I'm not looking to my Botox top-up for a drastic transformation, rather a boost that brings me back to looking like me, but on a really good day. Something that an elaborate 11-step skincare routine just can't guarantee.

Investing in triannual tweakments feels considered, efficacious and more than worth the cost. But if needles just aren't your thing, or you would rather stick to formulas that come in a bottle rather than a syringe, I swear by Tata Harper's eye cream as the only eye product I've tried that actually tightens and lifts creases and lines, Exuviance's Bionic Tonic, which feels like a Profhilo treatment in a pad, and La Mer's juicy-skin-inducing lotion, which might not be cheap but will bring a dry complexion back to life. □

1
BEST NAIL STRENGTHENER

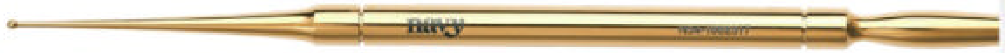
2
BEST SHADE RANGE
3
BEST FOR NAIL CARE
4 BEST FOR CUTICLES


BEST FOR FASHION COLOURS
5
6
BEST BASE
7
BEST VEGAN POLISH

10 *of the best: nail products*

From flawless prep to high-impact pigment, a polished manicure is at your fingertips

WORDS BY KATIE WITHINGTON


8
BEST FOR NAIL ART

9
BEST AT-HOME GEL

10
BEST TOP COAT

1 Hard To Resist Advanced Nail Strengthener, £10.99, ESSIE **2** Nail Polish in Tan, £10, PEACCI **3** L'Huile Camélia Hydrating & Fortifying Oil, £28, CHANEL **4** Ultra Precision Nipper, £35, TWEEZERMAN **5** Vernis à Ongles Nail Polish in Lucy Baby Blue 716, £26, GUCCI **6** Base Coat Abricot, £25, DIOR **7** The Primrose Hill Polish, £12, SHOREDITCH NAILS **8** Dorothy Detailing Tool, £38, NAVY PROFESSIONAL **9** 5-In-1 Builder Gel in Laid Bare, £13, MYLEE **10** Better On Top Quick Drying Top Coat, £9, NAILS INC

PHOTOGRAPH: IMAXTREE

hairfollic®

Love your hair again

It's NOT just what you put on the outside that counts.

Hair styling, hormonal changes, poor diet and stress can all have an impact on our hair.

Hairfollic is scientifically formulated for women with nutrients including biotin, selenium and zinc which all contribute to the maintenance of normal hair.

With **Tricologic™ – an exclusive Biomarine-collagen complex** with Marine Collagen, Grape Seed extract and amino acids.

hairfollic®
her
hair support programme
26 nutrients
Tricologic®
Biomarine-collagen complex, Grape Seed extract, Amino Acids
With biotin & selenium to help maintain normal hair health
VITABIOTICS
hairfollic®
her
ADVANCED
hair support programme
32 nutrients
Tricologic® tablets
+
Beaulixir® capsules
Research tested*
Biomarine-collagen, Phytosterols
With biotin & selenium to help maintain normal hair health
VITABIOTICS

ORIGINAL TABLETS[1]

DUAL PACK TABS & CAPS[1] with Beaulixir®

from Britain's No.1 Vitamin Company*

Also Available: **Hairfollic® Him**

From Boots, Holland&Barrett, pharmacies, health stores and **www.hairfollic.com**

***Nielsen GB ScanTrack** Total Coverage Value and Unit Retail Sales 52 w/e 8 October 2022. To verify contact Vitabiotics Ltd, 1 Apsley Way, London NW2 7HF.
1. Tablets and capsules not actual size.

OVER 50 YEARS
OF LEADERSHIP IN VITAMIN RESEARCH
Est. 1971

QUEEN'S AWARD
4 TIMES WINNER

VITABIOTICS

2022-11-24_ADHFWCONP_E

TUI
Live Happy
Soaking it all in
The best city breaks made easy.
Flights, hotels, experiences all in one place.

2524 PROTECTED
ABTA
Travel with confidence

Please see www.tui.co.uk or the relevant brochure for booking terms and conditions. All the flights and flight-inclusive holidays are financially protected by the ATOL scheme. When you pay you will be supplied with an ATOL Certificate. Please ask for it and check to ensure that everything you booked (flights, hotels and other services) is listed on it. Please see our booking conditions for further information or for more information about financial protection and the ATOL Certificate go to: www.caa.co.uk. TUI is a trading name of TUI UK Limited, a member of TUI Group. Registered Office: Wigmore House, Wigmore Lane, Luton, LU2 9TN. Registered in England No: 2830117. ATOL No: 2524. ABTA No: V5126.

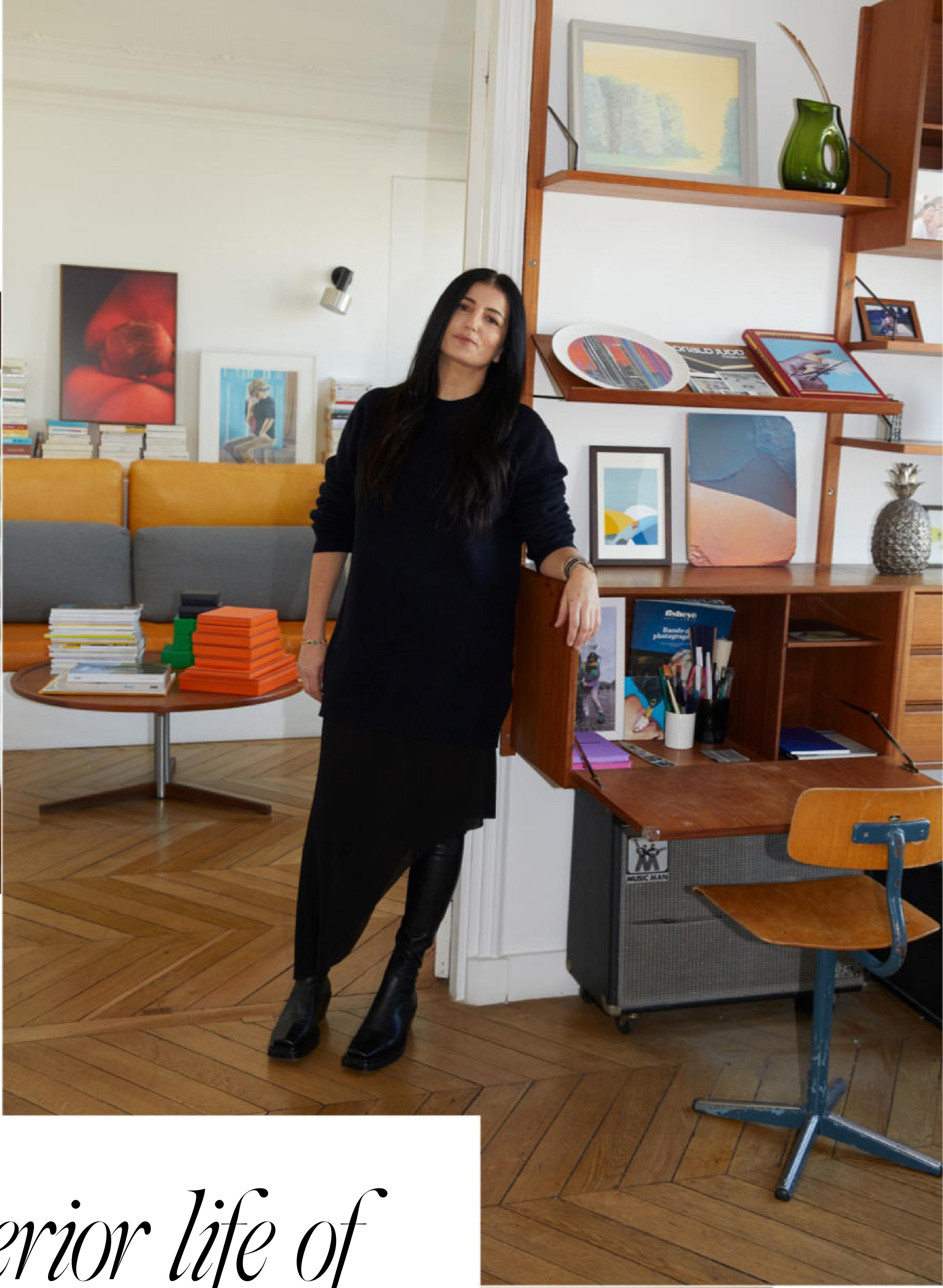
ELLE

IN+OUT

CULT FOLLOWING

SHE RUNS THE GO-TO BRAND THE FASHION SET LOVE – NOW WE STEP INSIDE THE LAID-BACK PARIS APARTMENT OF THE FRANKIE SHOP'S GAËLLE DREVET TO GET A LESSON IN COOL-GIRL LIVING. THEN YOU'LL CATCH US BOOKING OUR FLIGHTS TO THE BUZZIEST CITY IN ITALY RIGHT NOW: NAPLES

PHOTOGRAPH: ADELINE MAI. SITTINGS EDITOR: GAL KLEIN. HAIR AND MAKE-UP BY SERGIO VILLAFANE



MIXING MID-CENTURY
FURNITURE CLASSICS
AND ARTFUL
ACCESSORIES FOR
MAXIMUM IMPACT
WITH MINIMAL FUSS

The interior life of Gaëlle Drevet

Gigi Hadid and Rihanna are fans of her boxy boyfriend blazer – now see inside the home of The Frankie Shop founder to be inspired by her understated creativity

---

WORDS BY LAUREN COCHRANE
PHOTOGRAPHS BY ADELINE MAI

THE FORMULA FOR A WINNING INTERIOR SCHEME? TEAK FURNISHINGS AND BRUSHED-STEEL ORNAMENTS, AS SEEN BELOW

IF HER WILDLY SUCCESSFUL CULT BRAND THE FRANKIE SHOP IS all about elegance that works in real life, founder Gaëlle Drevet practises what she preaches. The entrance to her sixth-floor Marais apartment might include the mouldings of a classic Parisian hallway, but it also features two neatly parked tricycles - both belonging to her five-year-old son. 'My boyfriend always says this is a "no design" house,' explains Drevet. 'This is the way we like it. It's no clutter, no decoration – it's just about things that are interesting and functional.'

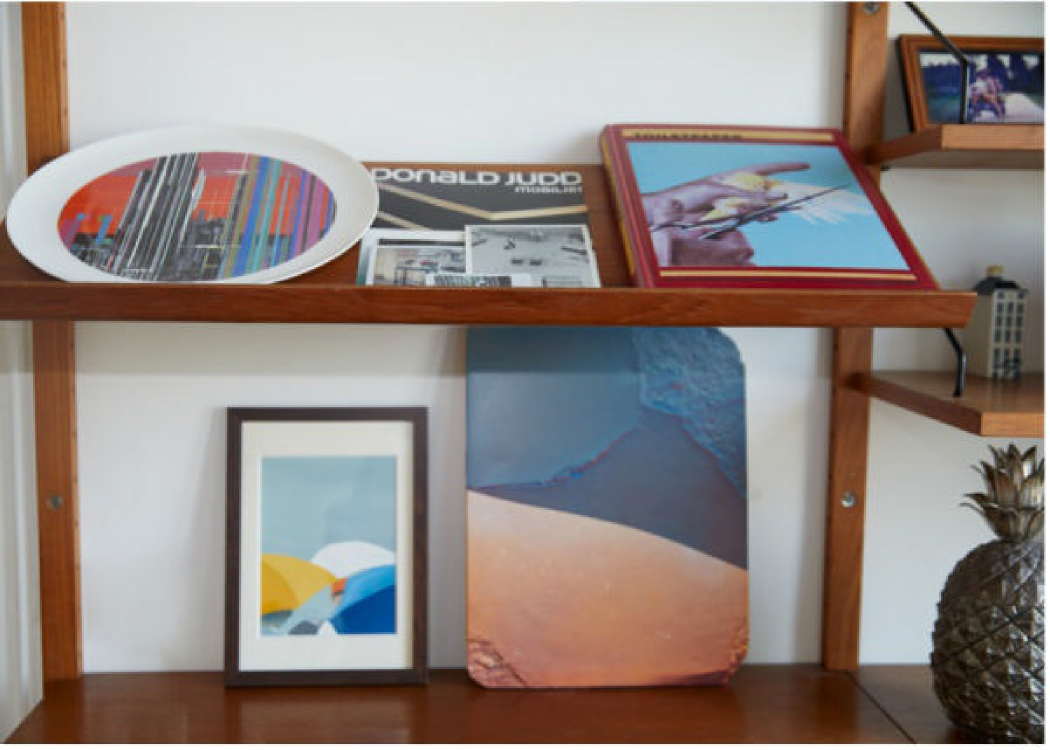
The main space fits this brief – a huge living room with herringbone parquet flooring is anchored by a Berber rug found in Marrakesh. The couple source vintage pieces from galleries, fleamarkets and auction houses to bring a Seventies feel. There's a highly prized low-slung coffee table made by Italian designer Willy Rizzo, and an equally enviable – and very white – curved Tito Agnoli sofa.

The white theme continues in the shape of a modern design classic: an Eero Saarinen dining table and chairs. Evidence of family life is dotted around, too – from the miniature guitar lined up alongside several adult-sized ones, to the sweet baby slippers that Drevet can't quite bring herself give away. Here, white isn't about immaculate minimalism. It's a backdrop to fun – see the bright neon-pink bowls balanced on a vintage hi-fi, or a bouquet of peacock feathers peeking out from behind a speaker.

Drevet – an energetic presence with a sheet of glossy raven hair and matching statement specs – says two factors attracted the couple to the space: the light, which streams in from windows on both sides, and the generous but elegant storage space – the walls are lined with discreet white cupboards. 'There's one I hadn't even noticed – it's like Louis XIV with his secret doors,' she jokes. Her clothes are behind those doors, and stored on ▷

AN AVID MUSIC FAN, DREVET USES INSTRUMENTS THROUGHOUT THE SPACE TO ENHANCE THE CREATIVE MOOD

THE CULT 'FRANKIE' CANDLES COME IN A RANGE OF COLOURS TO MATCH WHATEVER YOUR INTERIORS TASTE



a rail in a spare room, although, she admits, 'It's not organised. I need Marie Kondo before she quits.'

If the clothing rails benefit from Drevet's job, the walls here reflect that of her partner – he works at Galerie Hussenot in Paris, a gallery dedicated to contemporary artists. Art is everywhere. Drevet particularly favours a portrait of a young woman by Japanese painter Yu Nishimura, and a piece by Moroccan artist Mounir Fatmi made using telephone wire. 'It's a verse of the Quran, so it's about the connection between God and the new media and technology in today's world,' she says.

The couple first began living in the apartment around 10 years ago – although Drevet was, at this point, travelling a lot. She settled permanently in Paris in 2017 after living in New York and working as an investigative journalist for two decades (at one point, she was trying to track down Osama bin Laden). The apartment was a good transition from life in the Big Apple, because it's on a main boulevard: 'As much as I could complain about the noise, I don't think I could live in a very quiet neighbourhood. I'd be scared at night.'

Drevet had first had thoughts of becoming a designer while growing up in Saint-Etienne in central France, but pursued journalism as a less risky career path. She didn't revisit her childhood dream until her mid-thirties, while staying in London waiting to resolve a visa issue for her work in the US. With her employers paying for her accommodation, she was able to save up enough money to begin producing clothes. And in 2014 The Frankie Shop – or, as Drevet calls it, 'Frankie' – was born. Now, nearly 10 years later, it's a runaway success with over a million followers on Instagram and an instantly recognisible signature look: the oversized boyfriend blazer.

Aesthetically, Frankie was driven by the fact that Drevet couldn't find anything to wear. 'I wanted an everyday kind of look that wasn't too contrived, dolled up,' she remembers. 'I wanted minimal, but I wanted to remain a little bit edgy also.' London had a part to play. 'We [French people] have tons of rules, and you guys just break them and it's amazing,' she says. 'I remember [being inspired by] my London friends and the way that they put things together in an edgier way. Otherwise I would just be wearing a stripe [a Breton top] and a jean.' Jane Birkin – the ultimate Franco-Brit – remains a muse.

Drevet says a personality trait helped with a career switch. 'I have no fear,' she says. 'That makes me jump – and really, you just have to jump.' Her background in journalism meant she quickly embraced the power of social media. 'I could do my own PR. I didn't have to pay for a press person, [for] which I didn't have the money. I was my art director and I knew exactly what kind of pictures [I wanted]… Thanks to social media, things picked up organically.' That's something of an understatement: in December, *The Business of Fashion* called Frankie 'Instagram's Favourite Fashion Brand', and revealed net sales of $40m in 2022. As well as its online business, there is a bricks-and-mortar shop in New York, with more planned there; plus ▷

two in Paris, one set to open in London and various pop-ups.

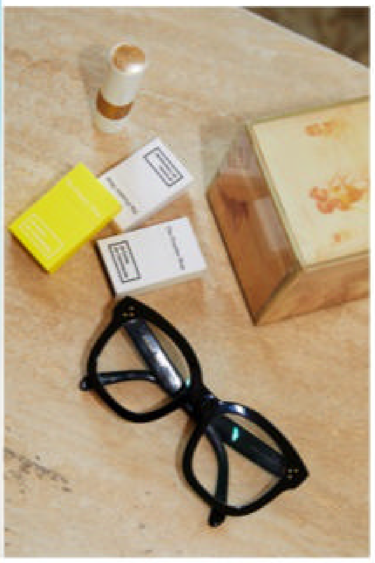
Her previous career also means Drevet is vocal about the issues she feels passionately about. After the Roe vs Wade reversal stripped many women of their rights to an abortion in the US, she launched a T-shirt with the slogan 'If You Are Not Angry You Are Not Paying Attention', with all proceeds going to the National Network of Abortion Funds. 'You can't be a brand and be completely out of touch with what's going on around you,' she says. 'That would mean I'm not human, really.'

While brands such as Celine and The Row are giants of minimalism, their price points mean they are inaccessible to many. By contrast, Frankie is relatively affordable, with a pair of jeans around £100 and blazers around £200. They are also designed to be somewhat trendless. 'I want to make sure any girl who loves fashion like me can can afford to have elevated pieces [that] will hopefully last forever,' says Drevet. A level of pragmatism – the same approach that is seen in her apartment's interiors – is present here, too. 'It's offering tools to your life,' she says. 'I am not trying to make things more complicated.'

The success of Frankie arguably *did* make her own life more complicated – because it coincided with the birth of her son. 'At the time [I moved into this apartment], Frankie was taking off and I'd just had a baby at the same time,' she says. 'So I had two babies to take care of.'

These equally demanding concerns meant a shift in Drevet's lifestyle – one that remains in her association with her space. 'I have to say, the memories of this apartment are around me having a child,' she says. 'I wish I could say it is always filled with friends, but it was mostly my mum [and] my family.' But with her son now school age, she feels that may change – the activity around that Rizzo table may soon feature wine and adult conversation rather than milk and play-date chat.

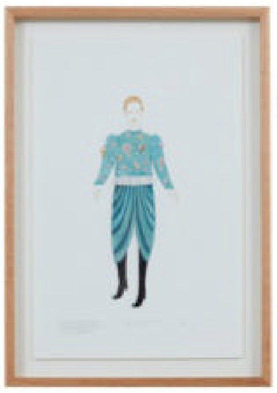
And what is likely to be the next addition to the home? 'We love music,' she says. 'I have been wanting to put a piano in here. We've had some very heated negotiations, [but] it hasn't happened yet.' But as someone with the determination to shelve a successful journalism career in order to launch an even more successful fashion brand, it's a safe bet that Drevet will add some ivories to this most Parisian of spaces before long. □



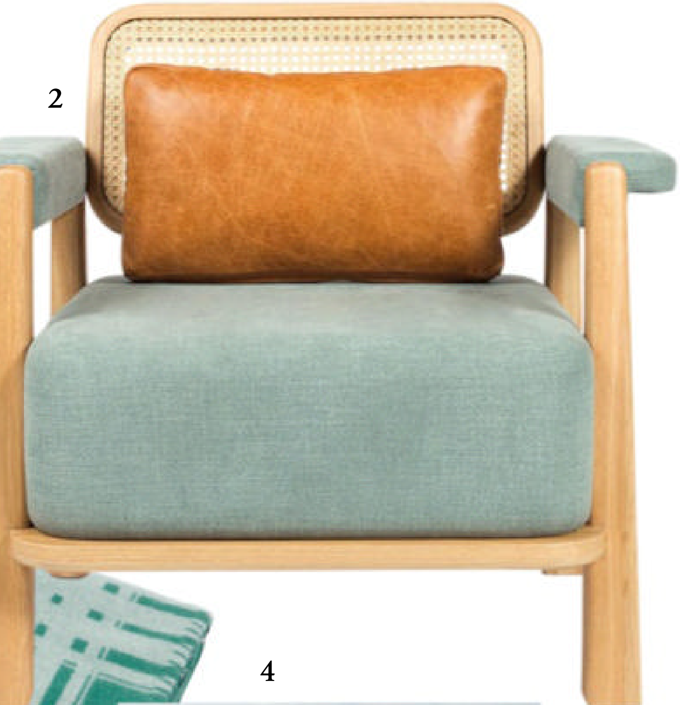
GALLIC COOL

SHOP SUBTLE SHADES AND MODERN SHAPES TO ADD A TOUCH OF PARISIAN CHIC TO YOUR HOME

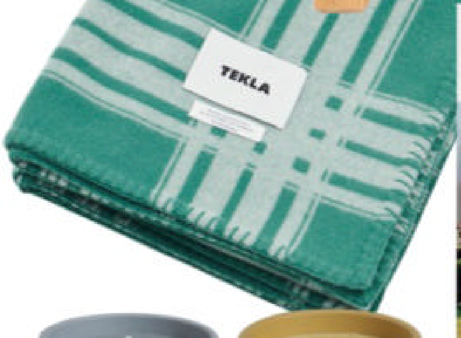
1



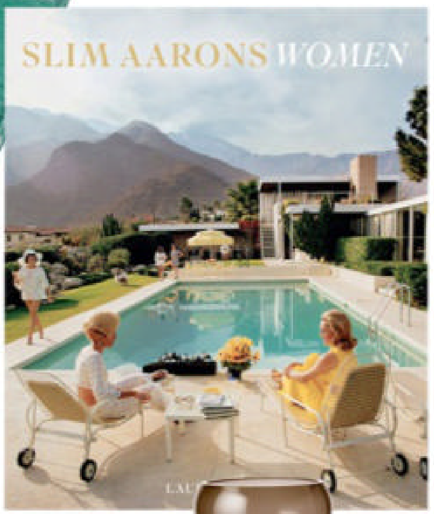
2



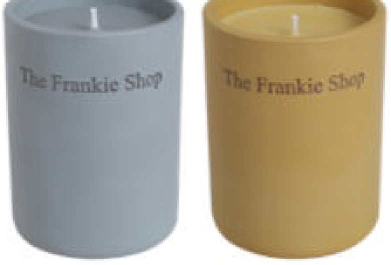
3



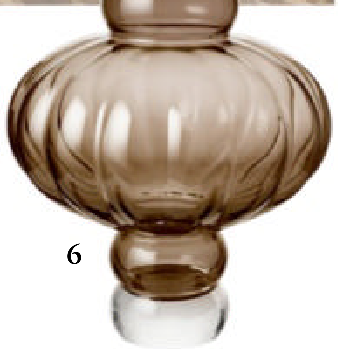
4



5



6



1 Artwork, £2,365, FRIDA WANNERBERGER for SOHO HOME **2** Armchair, £1,921, 1STDIBS **3** Blanket, £895, TEKLA **4** Book, £160, SELFRIDGES **5** Candles, £57 each, THE FRANKIE SHOP **6** Vase, about £225, LOUISE ROE

SITTINGS EDITOR: GAL KLEIN. HAIR AND MAKE-UP: SERGIO VILLAFANE

KITE: A NEW FESTIVAL OF IDEAS AND MUSIC

MUSIC

HOT CHIP—SUEDE—PRETENDERS

CANDI STATON—DJANGO DJANGO—EZRA COLLECTIVE
BAXTER DURY—SOFIA KOURTESIS—SARATHY KORWAR
MAUSKOVIC DANCE BAND—LYNKS—DECIUS
DAVID HOLMES—DJ PAULETTE—PRIMA QUEEN

IDEAS

DAME JOAN COLLINS—DAVID BADDIEL JEWS DON'T COUNT
CHRIS PATTEN & RANA MITTER ON CHINA & THE WEST
MUNROE BERGDORF—SIMON SINEK LESSONS IN LEADERSHIP
ALASTAIR CAMPBELL FIXING POLITICS—MARINA HYDE
RACHEL REEVES—PETER FRANKOPAN & GAIA VINCE
ADAM KAY—POLLY TOYNBEE & DARREN MCGARVEY
MEL GIEDROYC—NIHAL ARTHANAYAKE
ELIZABETH DAY—SUSANNA HOFFS

LIVE PODCASTS

MY TIME CAPSULE | THE BREAKUP MONOLOGUES | THE NEWS MEETING

COMEDY

ALISTAIR GREEN | SHAZIA MIRZA | KIRI PRITCHARD-MCLEAN | TOUSSAINT DOUGLASS |
JOSH BERRY | DAVE GORMAN | LOU SANDERS | ROSIE WILBY | GREG JENNER | JAY FOREMAN

PLUS SO MUCH MORE | WWW.KITEFESTIVAL.CO.UK

KITE

9—11 JUNE 2023 — KIRTLINGTON PARK, OXFORDSHIRE

SEVEN STAGES OF MUSIC AND IDEAS WITH:

KITE LESSONS—SKYLARK SOCIAL & BOOKSHOP—FOOD & DRINK—KIDS AREA—DJS

WEEKEND, DAY, CAMPING & GLAMPING AVAILABLE NOW
BE PART OF THE CONVERSATION KITEFESTIVAL.CO.UK @KITEFSTVL

Heavenly Tortoise

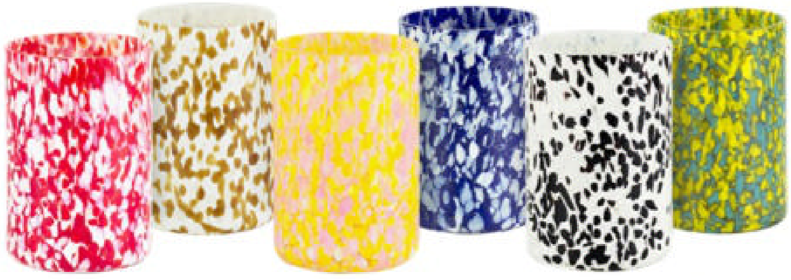
SUMMER
in PARIS
ELLE
ELLE
ELLE
LINGERIE COLLECTION
Available at www.next.co.uk
elleboutique.com | #parisiananywhere
ELLE is a trademark owned by HACHETTE FILIPACCHI PRESSE, France

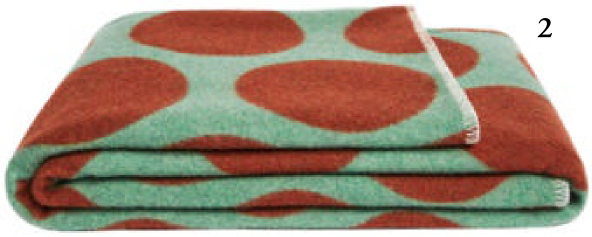
PROENZA SCHOULER

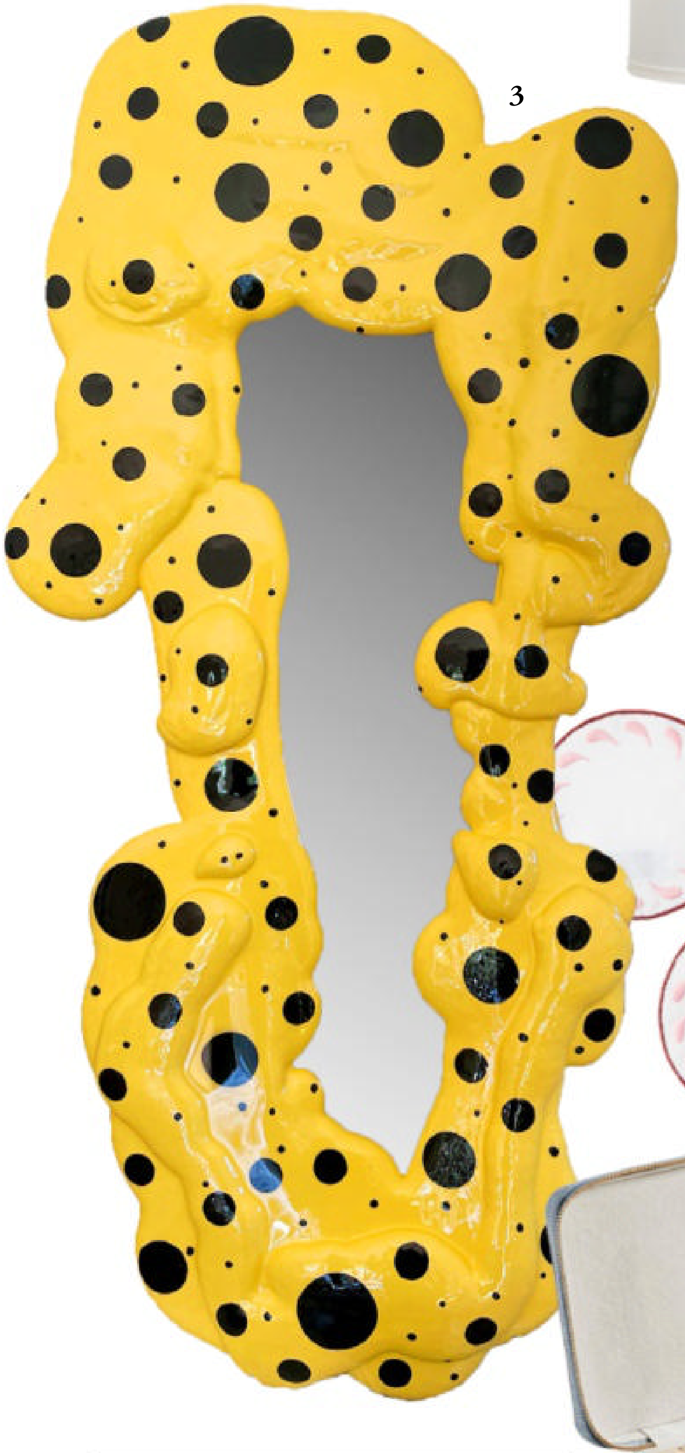
On the spot

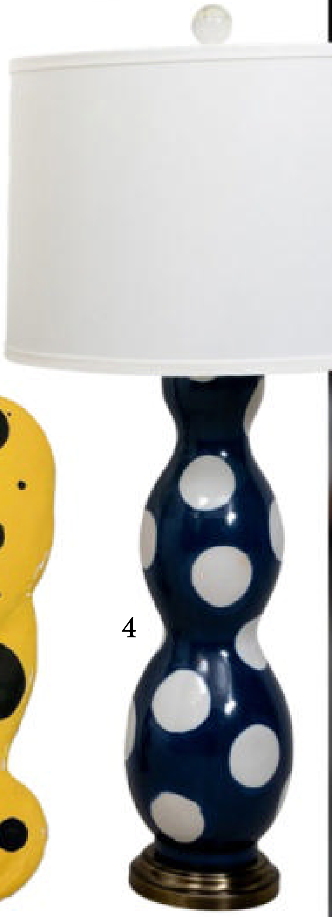
The polka dot returns… They were, er, spotted on the Proenza Schouler, Molly Goddard and Batsheva catwalks, and are popping up all over homewares, too

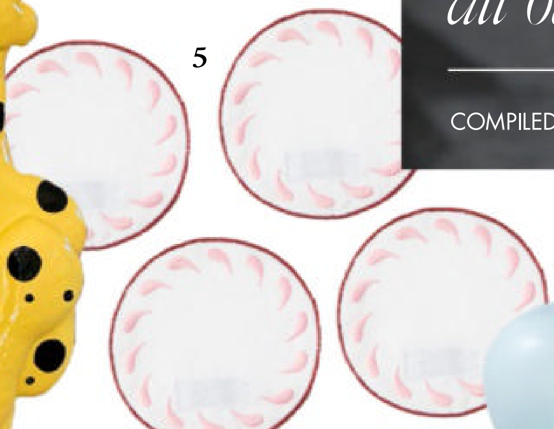
COMPILED BY GAL KLEIN

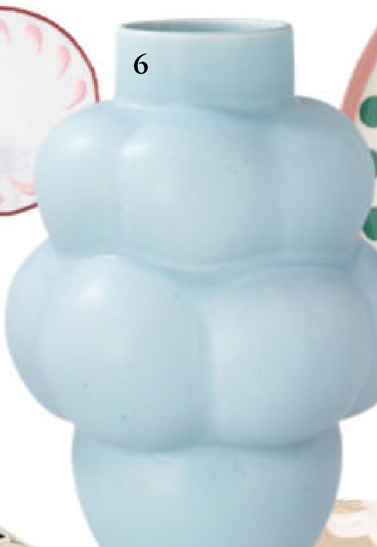
1


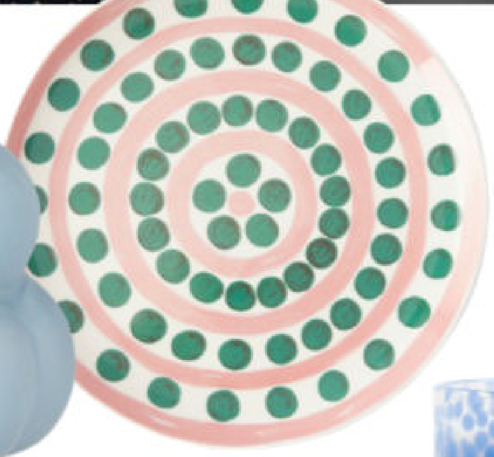
2


3


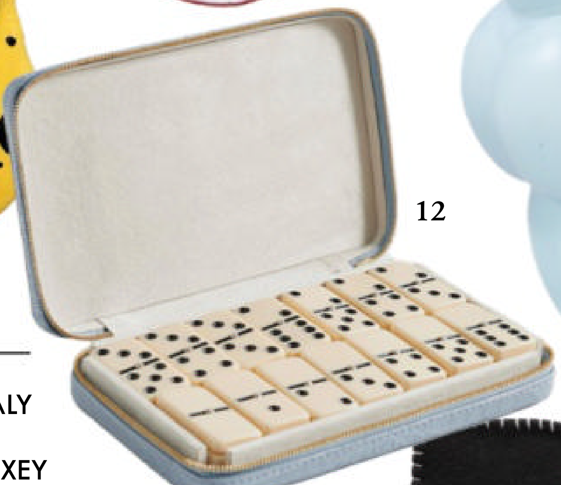
4


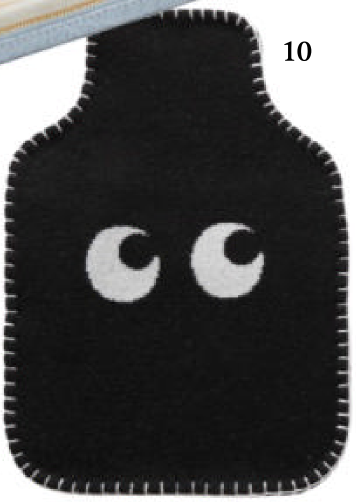
5


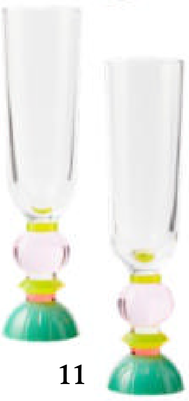
6


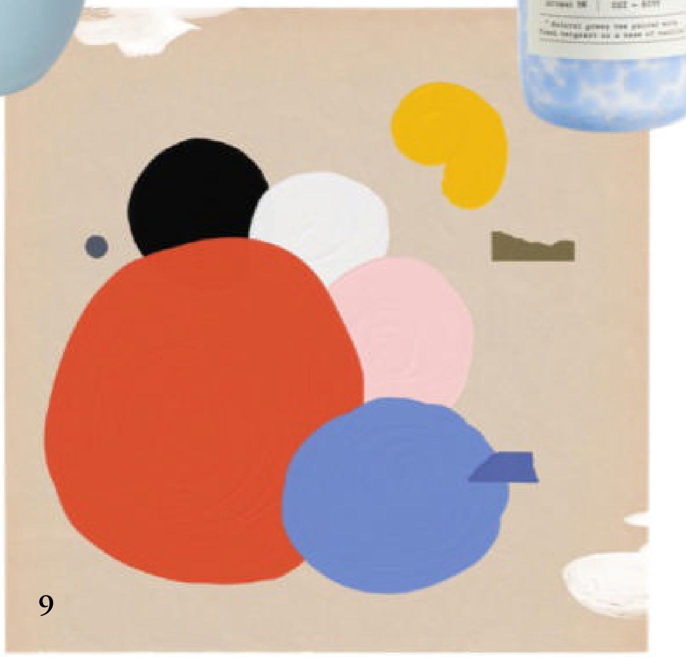
7


8

12


10


11


9


1 Tumbler set, £525, STORIES OF ITALY at SELFRIDGES **2** Blanket, £425, COLVILLE **3** Mirror, about £1,000, ALEXEY KRUPININ at THE ARTLING **4** Lamp, £1,950 for two, 1STDIBS **5** Coasters, £45 for four, AQUAZZURA at MATCHESFASHION **6** Vase, about £240, LOUISE ROE COPENHAGEN **7** Plate, £95, THEMIS Z at MATCHESFASHION **8** Candle, £14.99, H&M HOME **9** Print, £529, JULIANNA GOODMAN **10** Hot-water-bottle cover, £175, ANYA HINDMARCH at NET-A-PORTER **11** Glasses, £530 for two, COPENHAGEN at MATCHESFASHION **12** Dominoes set, £420, AERIN at NET-A-PORTER

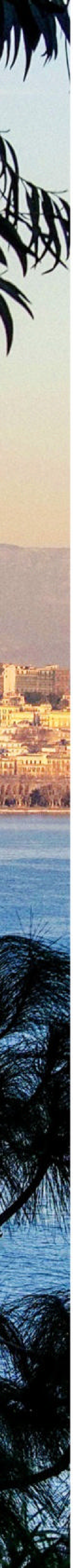
PHOTOGRAPH: GETTY IMAGES

VIVA NAPOLI!

ONCE THE BAD BOY OF ITALY, WITH AN INTIMIDATING REPUTATION TO MATCH ITS SWAGGER AND ENERGY, NAPLES HAS SMARTENED UP IN RECENT YEARS – BUT LOST NONE OF ITS SEDUCTIVE POWER

WORDS BY CLEMENTINA JACKSON

PHOTOGRAPHS: ALAMY, GIOVANNI RINALDI, SAM GREGG, MUTART AGENCY



TUTTO PASSA

HERE COMES THE SUN
CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: NAPLES' STREETS; THE GEORGE RESTAURANT AT GRAND HOTEL PARKER'S; 'TUTTO PASSA' FROM SAM GREGG'S SERIES 'SEE NAPLES AND DIE', 2020; GRAN CAFFÈ GAMBRINUS

I'D LIKE TO SAY THAT I FELL IN LOVE WITH NAPLES THE FIRST TIME I visited it but, in reality, the opposite is true. I was seven years old, brought to the city by my Italian mother who had called it home for a decade, and whose love for the place, its people and its rich culture was palpable. But despite her best efforts, perfectly curated itinerary and countless stops for pizza, it was my idea of hell. Chaotic, gritty, overrun with mopeds and loud people, it was an assault on my senses – and an experience I found so intense that I avoided the city for the next 20 years.

I passed through Naples many times, but only out of necessity and as quickly as possible, in pursuit of the more glamorous *dolce vita* found on the nearby Amalfi Coast and the islands of Capri and Ischia. Here, I spent countless summers in comparatively quiet bliss, happily lapping up the local culture – food, ceramics and handsome men, mostly.

Sadly, this is not unusual. Naples' reputation precedes it, and not in a good way. Having endured centuries of foreign occupation, crime and economic inequality, it has been the subject of endless fearmongering and unkind portrayals in popular culture – and generally circumvented as a result.

But something has shifted in recent years. Suddenly, the idyllic images that fill my Instagram feed are not from Positano and Amalfi, but Naples. Shows such as *My Brilliant Friend* and Stanley Tucci's *Searching for Italy*, and Paolo Sorrentino's film *The Hand of God* have shown the city's more positive and enticing side. Its decayed yet beautiful buildings appear as backdrops to high-fashion campaigns, its vibrant streets are the subjects of chic coffee-table tomes and the city's cuisine has become the ultimate #foodporn. Along with millions of others, I even found myself obsessing over local sandwich-maker and TikTok sensation Donato de Caprio.

'There's definitely a more glamorous crowd that's curious to explore Naples now,' says Emily FitzRoy, founder of the ultra-exclusive Italian specialists Bellini Travel. 'I can't reveal my clients' names, but there have been tons lately: actors, athletes, fashion insiders and members of the contemporary art scene.'

Naples seems to have cleaned up its act, leaving behind its decades-long rough patch and developing parts of the city that were once veritable 'no-go' zones, to finally enjoy its moment in the spotlight as one of Europe's most exciting and vibrant destinations. Helping to lead the charge are the city's young creatives, whose passion for their hometown has helped open it up to a new demographic.

'Those of us who were born in Naples have gone around the world praising it and bringing it into our work,' explains stylist and art director Riccardo Maria Chiacchio. 'I have never met a creative who came here and wasn't overwhelmed by the city: the chaos, the sea, the people, the sounds, the colours… It is the perfect formula for inspiration. Now, pretty much every fashion brand I work with wants to shoot in Naples, not just for its visual beauty, but because of its rawness and realness, too.'

Labels such as Vivienne Westwood, Dolce & Gabbana, Zara and Andersson Bell have recently shot campaigns on Naples' streets, while *Vogue Italia* dedicated an entire issue to the city. ▷

The POWER of PISTACHIOS®

SHOCKING FACT PISTACHIOS ARE LOADED WITH ANTIOXIDANTS

In a recent study conducted by Cornell University and published in the journal, *Nutrients*, the antioxidant power of American-grown pistachios was measured using the Oxygen Radical Absorbance Capacity (ORAC) and Cellular Antioxidant Activity (CAA) testing protocols. For more information, visit AmericanPistachios.co.uk

AMERICAN QUALITY
PISTACHIOS®
California Grown
AmericanPistachios.co.uk

©2022 American Pistachio Growers

'If that isn't a sign that a place is on the up, then I don't know what is,' says Sam Gregg, a British photographer who has lived in Naples on and off for 10 years. 'Interest is at an all-time high. People are no longer simply passing through, but coming specifically to see Naples for themselves.'

Gregg, along with Sam Youkilis, Ciro Pipoli, Brett Lloyd, Eleonora d'Angelo and more, has been instrumental in helping to demystify the city. Their photographs of everyday Neapolitan scenes, in all their rough-around-the-edges glory, have blown up on Instagram, and portraits of the city's charismatic residents quickly go viral. One of Gregg's most-shared photos is of a local man standing in front of the sea and Mount Vesuvius, his chest emblazoned with a tattoo that reads '*Tutto passa*' – 'Everything passes'.

'Post-pandemic, people are more interested in authenticity than airbrushed perfection,' explains Gregg. 'And authenticity is something Naples has in spades.'

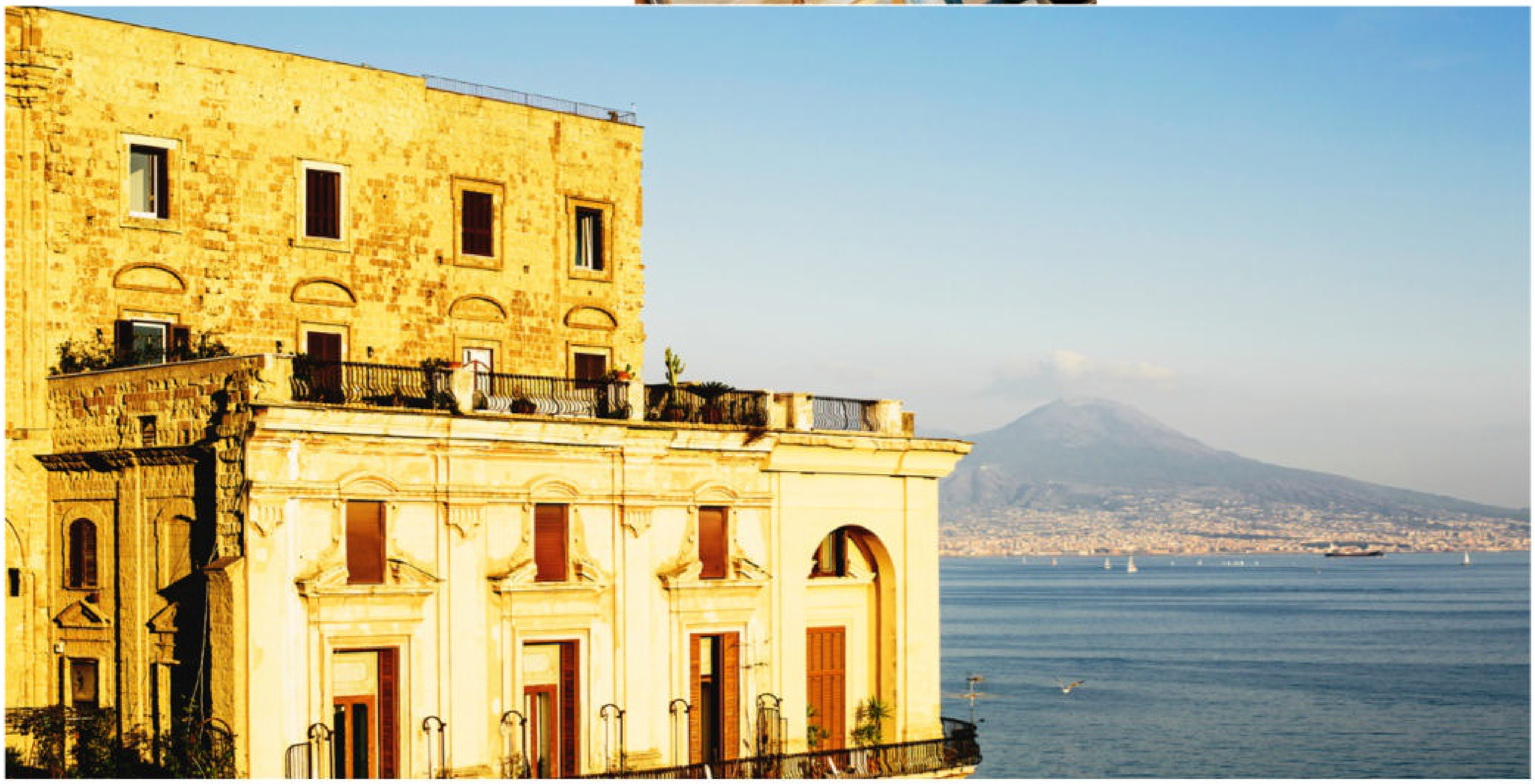
Somewhere between the flat, uninspiring existence of the endless lockdowns and a new-found fascination with the place I had for so long avoided, I decided to return. But this time, I resolved, I would approach it with an open mind – and plenty of recommendations.

I soon discovered that this was all I needed to experience the city in all its life-affirming glory. Following a tip from a fellow luxury-loving friend, I booked into the city's foremost five-star establishment, the magnificent Grand Hotel Parker's, which revolutionised Neapolitan tourism when it opened in 1870. Fresh from an extensive and costly refurbishment, it's the epitome of Italian grandeur, with marble floors, classical art, a Michelin-starred restaurant, James Bond-worthy bar and a style of extravagant hospitality that hasn't been the norm since Lenin and Virginia Woolf were guests. Located between the well-to-do areas of Vomero and Chiaia, the hotel also boasts one of the most spectacular views in town, facing directly onto the glittering Gulf of Naples and, to the left, Vesuvius, the source of the city's penchant for explosive passion. In short, the perfect setting for a Naples newbie to enjoy a martini and rest their head after a day in the 'real' city that lies beyond the hotel's perimeter.

Buzzing from my first of the famously strong (and delicious) Neapolitan coffees, I ventured into the outside world, taking FitzRoy's advice to simply 'walk and walk and walk'. After a few kilometres flanking the coastline, I found myself in the tangle of cobbled roads that make up the Quartieri Spagnoli – once a much-feared neighbourhood but now one of the most vibrant parts of the city. Murals of the 'patron saint of Naples', Diego Maradona, are everywhere, as are artistic graffiti, love notes suspended from laundry lines, and a steady stream of hip locals enjoying spritzes in the street.

Perched outside one of the area's many hole-in-the-wall-style bars, I delighted in observing the same everyday scenes and people I had been captivated by in the photos. While the city has made great strides to evolve and improve, it has remained resolutely the same, holding fast to the roots, traditions and ▷

EAT, PRAY, LOVE
LEFT: SALVATORE CAUTERO CHAMPAGNE BAR. ABOVE: A MURAL DEDICATED TO DIEGO MARADONA. BELOW: THE BAY OF NAPLES AND MOUNT VESUVIUS



PHOTOGRAPHS: STOCKSY, ALAMY

THE GREAT BEAUTY L'ANTIQUARIO BAR. LEFT: THE CLOISTERS OF SANTA CHIARA MONASTERY

population that have made it so special. This means the prices haven't skyrocketed (you should never pay more than €6 for a pizza Margherita or €1 for an espresso), the shops remain fiercely independent and you'll still see clothes hanging from windows and baskets of groceries being winched up buildings, even in the most happening parts of town. These remnants of an unpolished past lend Naples an undeniably sexy edge that make it a thrilling place to be. And despite the new wave of tourists poking around, locals greet each visitor with characteristic openness and warmth, offering stories, directions and recommendations to ensure they experience the best of their city.

Admittedly, that is how I ended up on something of a wild-goose chase to sample the most-hyped spots around. For pizza, I queued for an hour to eat at the historic Sorbillo (absolutely worth it), and traipsed to the other side of town for Ciro Oliva's creations at Concettina ai Tre Santi – pizzas so good they're credited with single-handedly revitalising the run-down area of Rione Sanità. For a rich ragù Napoletano and fragrant Genovese pasta – 'the way Nonna makes it' – it was off to the tiny, tile-covered Osteria della Mattonella (book well in advance), then Caffè Gambrinus for sfogliatelle and babà.

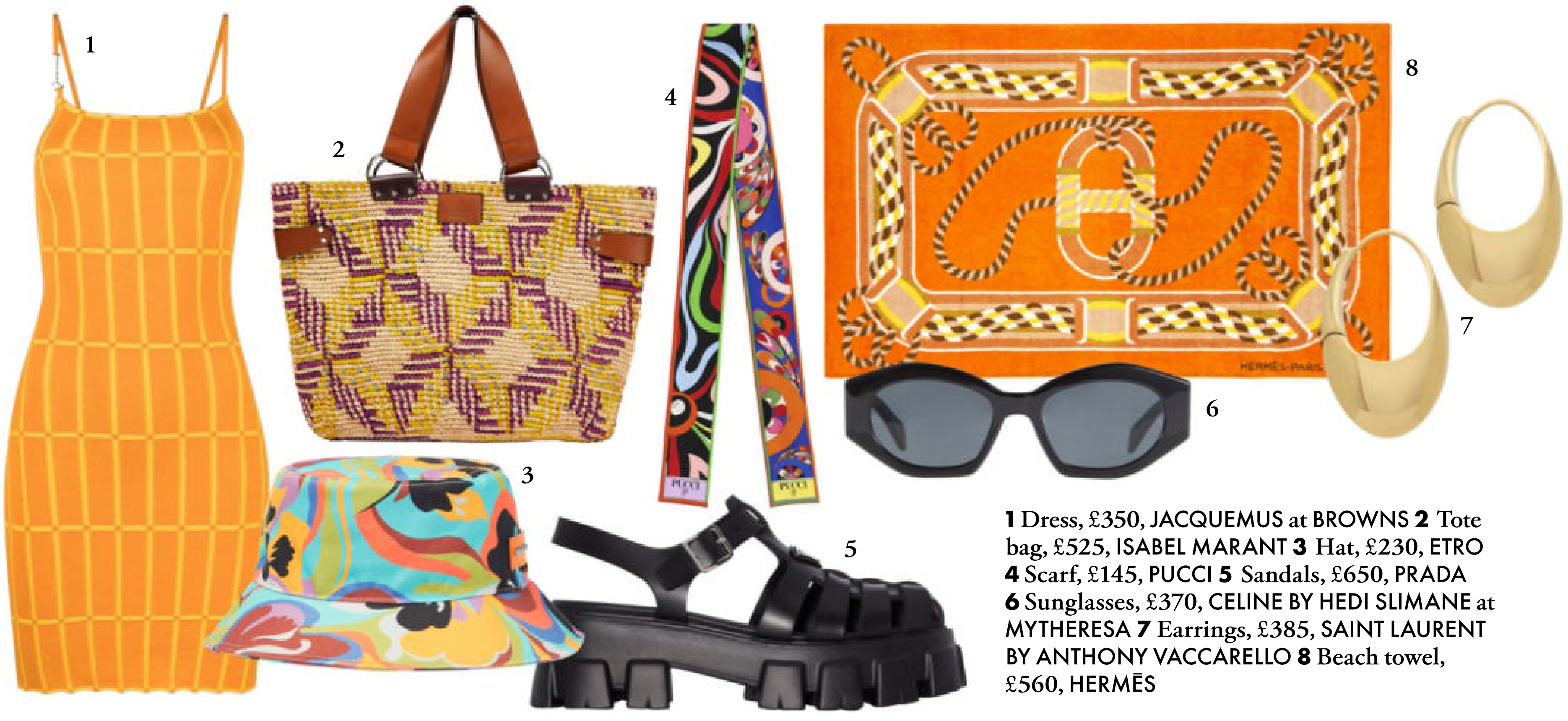
Most recommended of all, however, was Mimì alla Ferrovia – a jewel in the grubby surroundings of the Garibaldi train station, considered by many the holy grail of Neapolitan cooking. It first opened in 1943 and has been run by descendants of the legendary Mimì ever since. Today, the kitchen is in the hands of the charismatic 32-year-old chef Salvatore Giugliano, who returned to the family business after cutting his teeth at various Michelin-starred establishments and has brought an air of contemporary cool to the traditional trattoria. 'Come to the kitchen for a chat and ask what's *fuori menu* [off menu],' advises Giugliano – then prepare for the meal of a lifetime.

A special mention must also go to the city's burgeoning drinks scene, where innovation elevates tradition to similarly spectacular effect. The speakeasy-style L'Antiquario has been voted one of the 50 Best Bars in the world, the just-opened Elements specialises in experimental cocktails, while Salvatore Cautero has transformed his family deli into an insider-favourite champagne bar. And a little further afield in Pomigliano d'Arco, there's the ex-Connaught Bar mixologist Vincenzo Pagliara's Laboratorio Folkloristico, which uses 'local products with an international attitude and style'.

The only downside is that there aren't enough meals or hours in the day to try it all. I finally understand why Chiacchio, the local stylist, had told me, 'My main tip for Naples is to visit twice.' Next time, I won't leave it so long. □

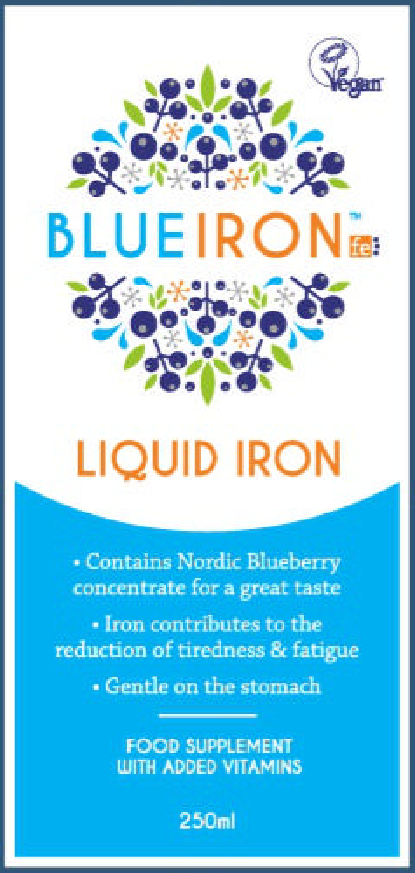
THAT'S AMORE

EMBRACE THE MORE-IS-MORE SPIRIT OF NAPLES IN CITRUS SHADES AND STANDOUT ACCESSORIES



1 Dress, £350, JACQUEMUS at BROWNS **2** Tote bag, £525, ISABEL MARANT **3** Hat, £230, ETRO **4** Scarf, £145, PUCCI **5** Sandals, £650, PRADA **6** Sunglasses, £370, CELINE BY HEDI SLIMANE at MYTHERESA **7** Earrings, £385, SAINT LAURENT BY ANTHONY VACCARELLO **8** Beach towel, £560, HERMÈS

PHOTOGRAPHS: ALAMY


Vegan
BLUEIRON™ fe
LIQUID IRON
• Contains Nordic Blueberry concentrate for a great taste
• Iron contributes to the reduction of tiredness & fatigue
• Gentle on the stomach
FOOD SUPPLEMENT WITH ADDED VITAMINS
250ml

Vegan

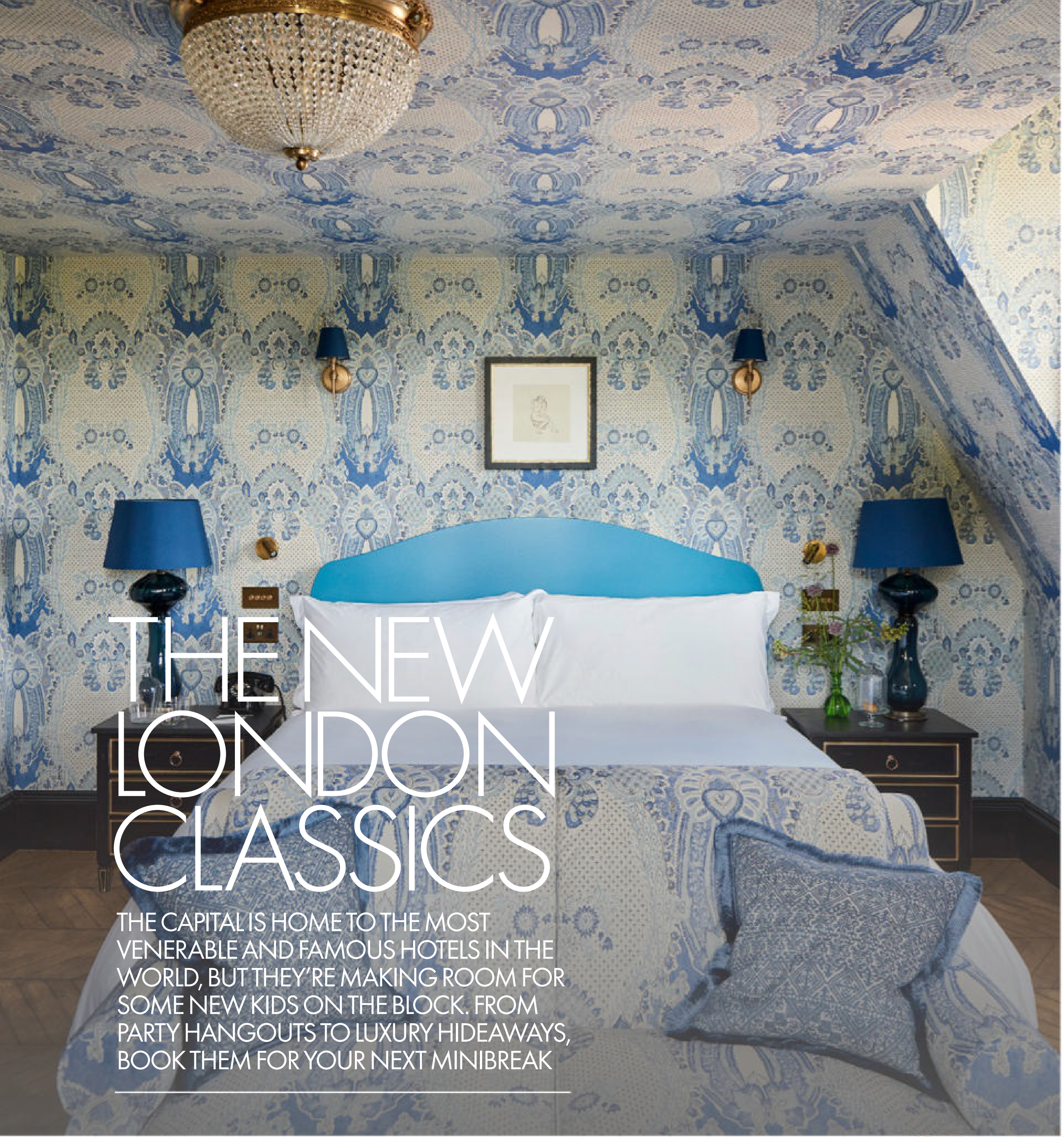
NATURAL
NORDIC
ENERGY*

BlueIron is an iron supplement unlike any other. Made with Nordic blueberries picked in the wild, just one dose provides your full recommended daily reference intake of iron, which contributes to the reduction of tiredness and fatigue and the normal function of the immune system.

blueiron.co.uk

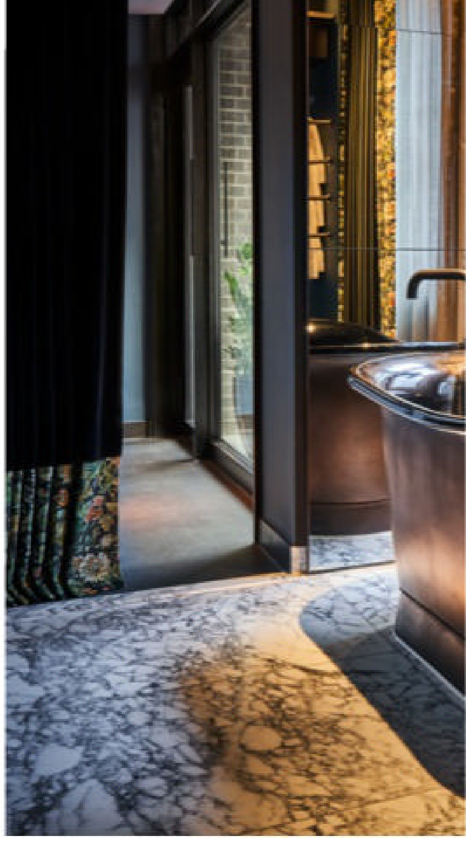
*BlueIron contains naturally-sourced Nordic blueberries for flavour plus Iron which contributes to the reduction of tiredness and fatigue. Food supplements should not be used as a substitute for a varied diet and healthy lifestyle.

Available online and from good retailers nationwide.



THE NEW LONDON CLASSICS

THE CAPITAL IS HOME TO THE MOST VENERABLE AND FAMOUS HOTELS IN THE WORLD, BUT THEY'RE MAKING ROOM FOR SOME NEW KIDS ON THE BLOCK. FROM PARTY HANGOUTS TO LUXURY HIDEAWAYS, BOOK THEM FOR YOUR NEXT MINIBREAK



COMFORT IS KING
LEFT: A ROOM AT THE TWENTY TWO. BELOW: THE HOTEL'S RESTAURANT

THE TWENTY TWO

Mayfair has been synonymous with a certain kind of stuffiness ever since it became the aristocracy's address of choice in the 18th century. Think *Bridgerton* and you've got it. And, in fact, new hotel The Twenty Two shares the Bridgertons' address on Grosvenor Square. The façade certainly looks the elegant-but-austere part – all stone walls and towering windows – but walk through the doors and you'll find that inside beats a bohemian heart.

Rooms are individually designed and, while luxurious, the bold colour combinations (for example, red velvet against turquoise walls) or statement wallpapers are far from the beige executive minimalism of so many upmarket hotels. Similarly, the restaurant and bar is more sybaritic than stuck up, with plush banquettes to sink into while enjoying a bespoke cocktail and a bit of people-watching. It is a neighbourhood hang out, after all, but one that is decidedly glamorous.

Out-of-town visitors could hardly be better placed here, with London's different facets all easily accessible: 10 minutes' walk in one direction takes you to the calm of Hyde Park, while the same in the other direction lands you right in the energy of Soho. Walk north and you're amid the bustle of Oxford Street; south and you'll hit the more refined Piccadilly. If you live in the city, however, it's the perfect bolthole for a bit of escapism solo or *à deux*, and a reminder of everything there is to love about your home town.

WORDS: KENYA HUNT, ENI SUBAIR, HANNAH NATHANSON. PHOTOGRAPHY: NICK SMITH PHOTOGRAPHY, JONATHAN BOND PHOTOGRAPHY, GETTY IMAGES

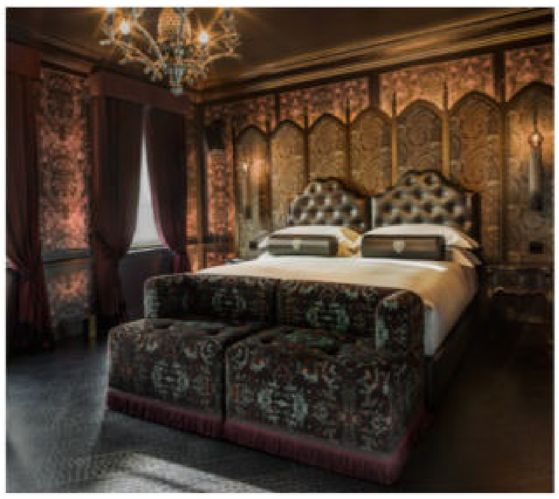
TRUE LUXURY CHATEAU DENMARK'S ROLL-TOP BATH

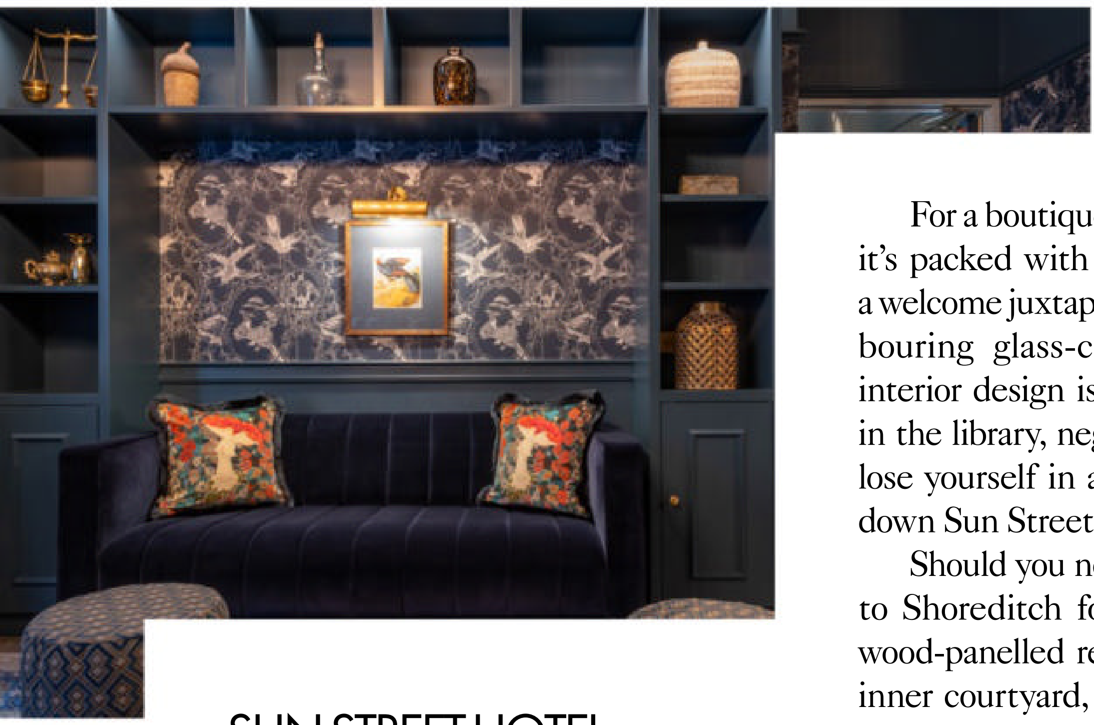
CHATEAU DENMARK

The location of Chateau Denmark is the first clue that it isn't the place for a sedate getaway. A stone's throw from Tottenham Court Road and on London's own Tin Pan Alley – as Denmark Street, with its history of music stores, venues and recording studios, is known – you're in the rock 'n' roll heart of the city.

Check into the decadent York apartment, in the heart of St Giles Square (the hotel's rooms and apartments are spread across 16 different buildings on and around Denmark Street; this one is a 30-second walk from the main reception). A huge curved sofa gives off Seventies recording-studio vibes, while a touch-screen pad allows you to call your personal butler, control the temperature or play with the various light settings. If you're gearing up for a night out, you're in the right spot. In the corner of the room sits a kitchenette with copious bottles of alcohol: there's nothing mini about this bar.

To unwind, enjoy a soak in a jade-green bath then sink into your king-sized bed. With double-glazed windows blocking out central London's bustle, you can enjoy an uninterrupted sleep, even if the sun's coming up by the time you turn in. Decadent escapism at its finest, Chateau Denmark is seductive enough to convert even the biggest staycation sceptics.





DARK GLAMOUR THE DISTINCTIVE INTERIOR OF SUN STREET HOTEL

SUN STREET HOTEL

The dream hotel is the best of both worlds: one that speaks to the wilder, carefree days of youth, but also caters to the older, more sophisticated person. This is where the recently opened Sun Street Hotel comes in. Billed as 'Where the City of London meets Shoreditch', it's the perfect location for someone who doesn't want to stay in the heart of hipster buzz but would still like to feel close to it – and to do so in style.

For a boutique hotel, with 41 rooms, it's packed with character and colour; a welcome juxtaposition with the neighbouring glass-covered towers. The interior design is quirky and intimate: in the library, negroni in hand, you can lose yourself in a book as people rush down Sun Street in the rain.

Should you not want to venture out to Shoreditch for dinner, the hotel's wood-panelled restaurant overlooks an inner courtyard, where you can eat in warmer weather. After a delicious meal, you can climb up to a loft room. Slightly labyrinthine, like the hotel itself, the suite is atmospheric with exposed brickwork and sloping ceilings, and the spacious bathroom houses an even more spacious free-standing, roll-top bath. In times past, a Shoreditch evening definitely wouldn't have ended before 10pm, but fthese days, if that's what you want, it's perfect – as is Sun Street Hotel, and its combination of old meets new. □

BODY & SOUL

The Mandrake Hotel in London has launched a spiritual-concierge service, for guests who want to nourish themselves with healing treatments and sound baths.

A NEW HOT SPOT

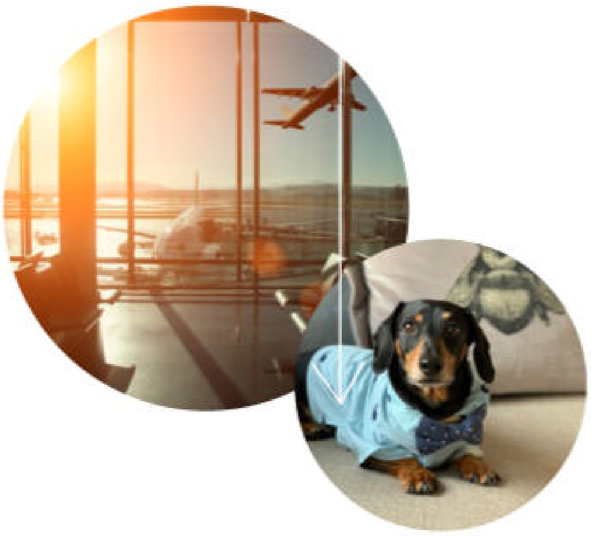
Chef Nuno Mendes has a knack for creating must-go restaurants (Chiltern Firehouse, anyone?), so visit Porto now to check out his new venture, Cozinha das Flores.

SOLITUDE

Vrbo has seen a 50% increase in demand for private holiday homes in destinations with a surplus of space.

BAROMETER

TRAVEL EXPERIENCES TO PUT ON YOUR WISHLIST – AND THE ONES TO AVOID



JETLAG

Tour operators are reporting a rise in appetite for destinations on similar time zones. Escape to Argentina (GMT -3) or South Africa (GMT -2) for a jetlag-free jaunt.

HOME-ALONE PETS

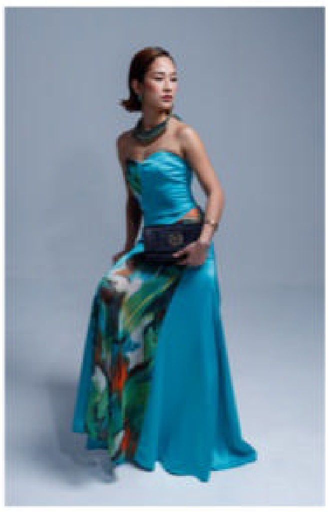
Leave your best friend at home? Never. Hotels such as the Pan Pacific in London are launching luxurious pet-friendly stays.

THE LOUNGE

Now airport lounges are accessible to canny travellers via credit cards or upgrades, a tier of first-class-only spaces is emerging. Buy a ticket or you're not getting in.

FASHION EDIT

MITCH DESUNIA FEATURING CRESLIE SIRIBAN

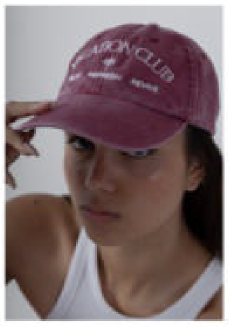


The Mitch Desunia Cruise collection 2023 speaks about women empowerment. In addition to its roster of Brand Ambassadors is Creslie Siriban, a dedicated mom to her 3 children, a loving wife and a business woman from the Philippines. Apart from capturing the young affluent market, the brand also aims to highlight the value of women in shaping world economy and politics mostly dominated by men with designs that speaks about strength, power and agility. Apart from clothing, the brand also produced shoes and bags to meat the growing demand of it in the fashion industry. Tweed, jacquard, brocade and industrial lace are eminent on Mitch DESUNIA's cruise collection. With styles that are not only elegant but also purposeful, the brand believes it would capture the market of women playing Important roles in shaping the global economy recently hit by the pandemic.

The Designer speaks' – "You tell the world who you are without saying a word by the kind of dress you wear."

Visit: www.mitchdesunia.com and follow on IG: @iammitchdesunia

Photos By: RC Lizan



L.DROBE CLOTHING

L.DROBE is a unisex, aesthetic leisurewear brand designed with comfort in mind. The independent, female-led brand curate's collections that encapsulate positivity and self-care at the core, whilst having an aspirational feel. The comfy sweats are designed to be worn by anyone, anywhere. The minimal designs are paired with classic colourways to help you build a timeless wardrobe and to encourage investing in staple items. The brand focuses on intertwining sustainability throughout, using all eco-conscious packaging and producing a handful of garments made from organic cotton and recycled polyester.

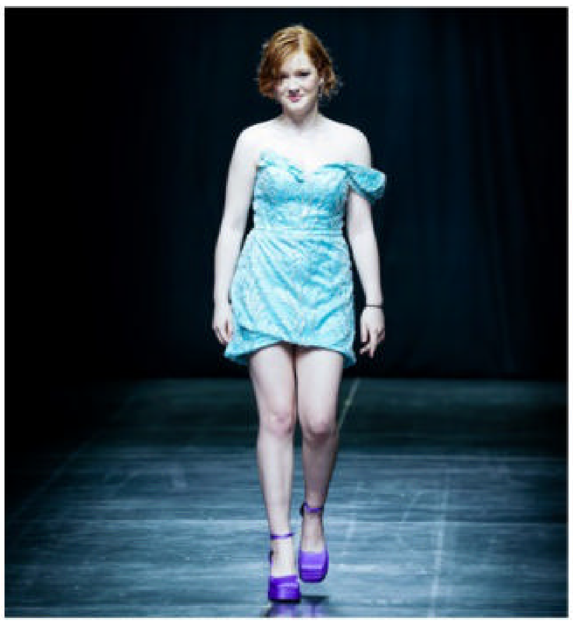
www.ldrobeclothing.com
@l.drobe

Photography: Robin Priest

FASHION EDIT

HOME OF FASHION WEEK – FALL/WINTER 2023 COLLECTION

HOME OF FASHION WEEK's event during Milan Fashion Week was held last February 2023 at the prestigious Superstudio13. Executive Producer, Chona Bacaoco and Andréas Volkmar brought emerging and established designers together to create a worldwide family of raw and diverse talents with its unique and revolutionary concept in an industry that can often be very competitive and exclusive.



Opening the show is ROCKY STAR

Rocky Star's Fall Winter 2023 collection was a showstopper, with its stunning blend of traditional Indian elements and modern western styles in collaboration with London Rag India shoes. The designer's commitment to craftsmanship and innovation was evident in every piece, with intricate embroidery, beading, and luxurious fabrics adding a touch of opulence to the collection.

To experience more of Rocky Star's innovative designs, visit their website at rockystarworld.com or follow them on Instagram at @rockystarofficial.

Second is somethinglikePLUTO

Step into the world of somethinglikePLUTO, where fashion meets individuality and advocacy. This rising star of the fashion industry, Pluto Ernsberger, is making waves with their latest collection produced by the visionary Chona Bacaoco. Whether you're looking for a bold statement piece or a unique addition to your wardrobe, somethinglikePLUTO has something for everyone.

Follow their journey on Instagram @somethinglike_pluto and be inspired to embrace your unique self.

Third is MM MILANO

MM Milano The Brand has recently launched their latest fall/winter 2023 collection, and it's all about the supernatural and spiritual journey. The collection features embellished sequins with a hooded cloak, symbolizing the spirit realm, the hermit, and the mind, body, and spirit connection. With a team dedicated to living out their values, MM Milano The Brand is definitely one to watch in the fashion world.

Visit mmmilano-thebrand.com or follow their Instagram @mmmmilano.thebrand

Closing the show is MICHAEL CINCO

Michael Cinco is a name that is synonymous with luxury fashion. As one of the most celebrated designers in the industry, Cinco has been wowing the fashion world with his exquisite creations for the past 25 years. His latest Fall Winter 2023 collection, "The Impalpable Dream of DUOMO MILANO", features an array of black and silver hues that are reminiscent of the mysterious and dreamlike atmosphere of Milan's iconic cathedral. Michael Cinco's latest collection is a true testament to his immense talent and dedication to his craft.

Visit www.michaelcinco.com or follow him on Instagram @michaelcinco5 to explore more of his iconic designs.

Executive Producer: Chona Bacaoco, Andréas Volkmar | Co-Producers: Kubo Productions LLC, Sally Ernsberger | Creative Director: Michael Amazona Del Mar | Fashion Choreographer: Lokesh Sharma | Featured Designers: Rocky Star, somethinglikePLUTO, MM Milano, Michael Cinco | Models: MM Milano Agency, Sophie Models, Malanka Fashion Agency, Model Point Group | Hair & Makeup Team: Guiseppe Barra Team, Monique Cruz, Princess Miranda, Reslie Mundwiler | Collaborators: IXXIA Jewelry, Jojo Bragais Shoes, Giorgi Franco, AGC Wines, Anacleto Gaspi Cacayan | Advertising/Marketing: Walter Longo | Staffing & Volunteers: Fashion4Futures | Event Venue: Superstudio 13 | Images By: Ram Eagle Photoworks

ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

BEAUTY EDIT

LUXURY VEGAN HAIRCARE

FFØR is built from a philosophy of haircare without compromise; luxury vegan haircare, enriched with honesty and sustainability. Expertly developed and thoughtfully sourced, their products elevate natural beauty, beyond boundaries and stereotypes. But their story goes further; making movements that will positively impact the future of people and the planet.

Ethically responsible in everything they do, their formulas are free from harsh and harmful chemicals, swapping sulfates, parabens, and mineral oils for naturally sourced ingredients – without sacrificing your hair's hydration, volume and shine. FFØR's styling & care range is 100% vegan, cruelty-free, gluten free and formulated without the use of synthetic fragrances. BEYØND HAIR.

Shop online at fforhair.com, or follow their story on Instagram: @fforhair

---

LOOK YOUNGER LONGER REGENTIV SPECIALIST SERUM (WITH RETINOL)

REGENTIV
THE SPECIALIST SERUM

This delicate and oh so effective serum for lines, wrinkles, crepey eyes and neck, vertical lip lines, sun damage and much more. The unique formulation of retinol palmitate, aloe vera, vitamin E, SPF, moisturiser – perfect to use twice daily. 35ml £32.95, 50ml £49.95, 105ml £79.95, 200ml £149.

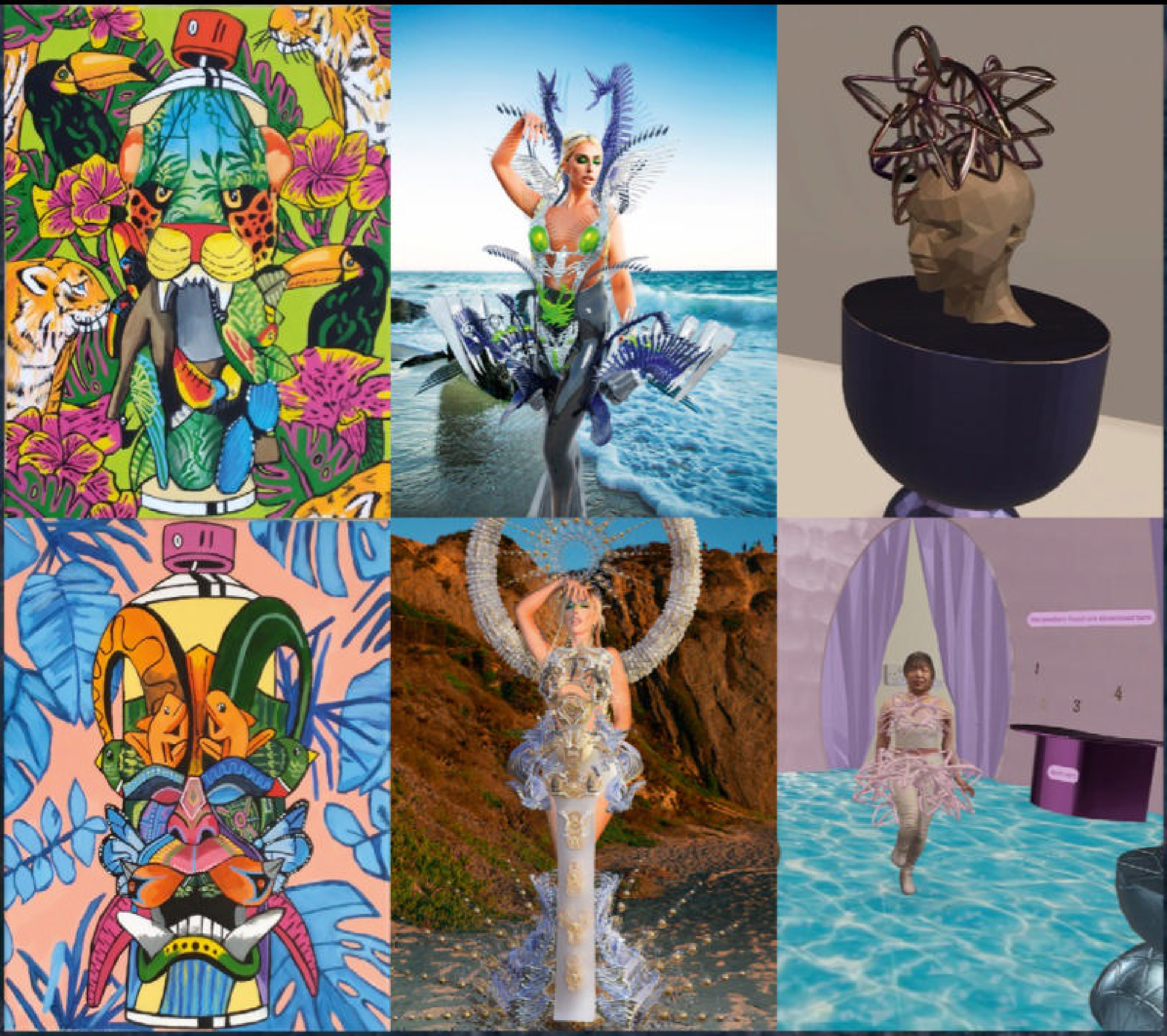
To receive an exclusive 15% reader discount apply code ELLE15 when ordering. www.regentiv.com or call 01923 212555 for advice or to order. Please see website for full range and special offers.

LATHAM & NEVE

Known for their stunning British contemporary silver and gold jewellery. Ballroom bangles, awesome earrings, knockout necklaces and much much more! Distinctive, sculptural pieces all designed and hand-made in Britain which really are made to be worn.

lathamandneve.co.uk

Fashion Crossover London Global Creatives from Left to Right:
Angela Thouless, Abi Sheng, and Daniela Groza



Creative Director: Since Wang
Fashion Editor: Fiona Ma
Ad Production: Maddie France
www.fashioncrossover-london.com

@fashioncrossoverlondon

Fashion Crossover London Debuts NFT Platform with Three London Creatives

Global Creatives Platform, Fashion Crossover London, is breaking into the NFT (Non-Fungible Token) space, leveraging technology to help young creatives showcase their innovative product offerings.

To do so, the e-commerce platform is launching an exclusive NFT platform on OpenSea, the world's largest Web3 marketplace, with three designers, Abi Sheng, Angela Thouless and Daniela Groza. These three collections embody the borderless nature of NFTs, celebrating the fluid socio-cultural realms in which they operate.

Thouless, recipient of the 2019 Graffiti Artist of the Year has made her virtual debut with Tribe All, a collection that celebrates the beauty of multiculturalism and community. Her work features explosions of colours, tribal masks and wild animals in an interactive colourscape and her recent pieces highlight the history of the Boruca tribe, "a celebration of their resistance to capture and attempted removal of their identity and tradition" explains Thouless.

Similarly, Sheng and Groza's collections celebrate diversity, inclusivity and the power of beauty. For Groza, a jewellery and silversmith graduate from the Edinburgh College of Art, her collection consists of fanciful headwear and futuristic earrings. She has utilized Japanese Mokume-gane techniques to manipulate and blend metals to represent the different body shapes and proportions.

Sheng also uses high-shine metal in her couture collection. "The Book of Revelation", is a prime example of the creativity and futuristic direction of digital fashion.

Inspired by quantum mechanics and science fiction narratives, she has created highly stylised, robot-like pieces that are both ethereal and avant-garde Her exoskeleton bodysuit design allows its buyer to fully immerse themselves into the virtual realm, where the fine line between reality and imagination dissolves. "Digital tools have enabled me as an innovator as it's a multi dimensional space," says Sheng on the importance of NFTs.

These three artists are helping define new industry norms in partnership with Fashion Crossover London and they envision digitisation as the future: "NFTs are a way for creatives to market themselves and win the battle over copyright issues and ownership," says Grouza.

HR
HELEN REYNOLDS
EXPERT STYLE ADVICE

Pick up your style confidence tips here
www.helenreynoldsstyle.com/tips

TO ADVERTISE HERE PLEASE CONTACT HEARSTREQUESTS@CANOPYMEDIA.CO.UK

Monoprints and etchings

robcollingbourne.co.uk

TO ADVERTISE HERE PLEASE CONTACT HEARSTREQUESTS@CANOPYMEDIA.CO.UK

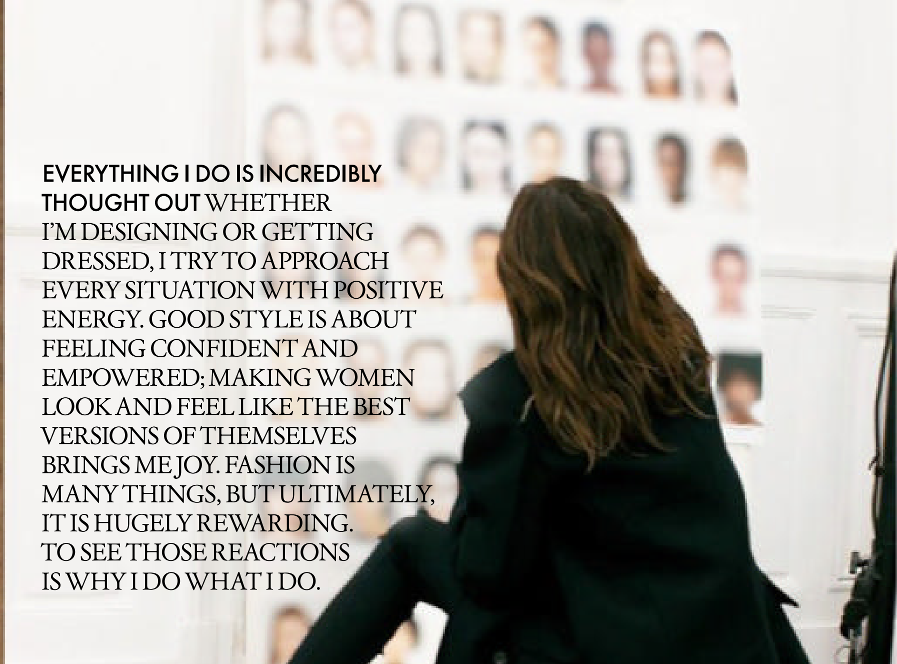
final word

My life in fashion: Victoria Beckham

The designer on wearing Tom Ford for Gucci during the Spice Girls' heyday, the evolution of her eponymous brand and the importance of upbeat energy

INTERVIEW BY ENI SUBAIR

SOMEONE TOLD ME: 'LISTEN TO THE PEOPLE AROUND YOU, TAKE ADVICE, BUT ALWAYS TRUST YOUR GUT INSTINCT.' ALSO, DON'T TURN UP TO A VERSACE PARTY WEARING GUCCI.

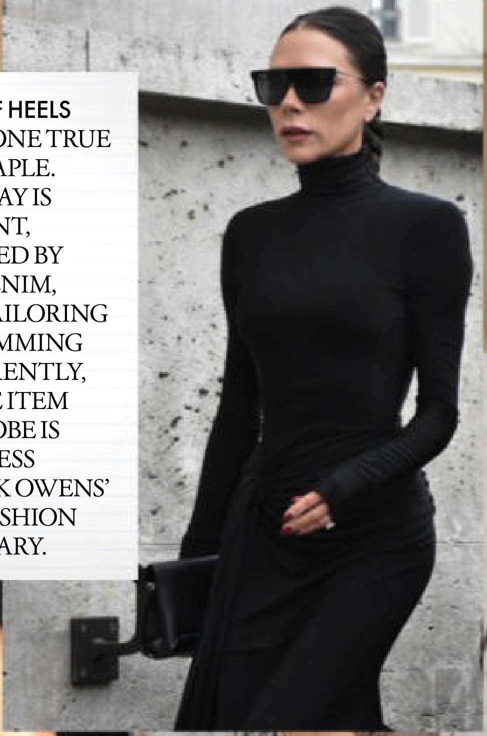


EVERYTHING I DO IS INCREDIBLY THOUGHT OUT WHETHER I'M DESIGNING OR GETTING DRESSED, I TRY TO APPROACH EVERY SITUATION WITH POSITIVE ENERGY. GOOD STYLE IS ABOUT FEELING CONFIDENT AND EMPOWERED; MAKING WOMEN LOOK AND FEEL LIKE THE BEST VERSIONS OF THEMSELVES BRINGS ME JOY. FASHION IS MANY THINGS, BUT ULTIMATELY, IT IS HUGELY REWARDING. TO SEE THOSE REACTIONS IS WHY I DO WHAT I DO.

I WAS INSPIRED BY FASHION MAGAZINES BECAUSE OF THE FANTASY AND ESCAPISM: I WANTED TO BE A PART OF THAT WORLD. DURING MY TIME WITH THE SPICE GIRLS, I WAS LUCKY ENOUGH TO HAVE A FEW PIECES CREATED BY TOM FORD FOR GUCCI.

BEFORE I STARTED MY BRAND IN 2008, I THOUGHT THAT A GOOD PRODUCT WAS ENOUGH TO BE SUCCESSFUL. I THEN REALISED THAT THERE'S A BIG MACHINE THAT MUST BE IN PLACE TO MAKE IT WORK: IT'S ABOUT THE TEAM YOU HAVE AROUND YOU.

A GOOD PAIR OF HEELS HAS BEEN MY ONE TRUE WARDROBE STAPLE. MY STYLE TODAY IS VERY DIFFERENT, CHARACTERISED BY SIGNATURE DENIM, MASCULINE TAILORING AND BODY-SKIMMING DRESSES. CURRENTLY, MY FAVOURITE ITEM IN MY WARDROBE IS A PRE-AW23 DRESS I WORE TO RICK OWENS' MENSWEAR FASHION SHOW IN JANUARY.



MY SHOW IN PARIS LAST SEPTEMBER MARKED A REAL FLAG-IN-THE-SAND MOMENT FOR MY BRAND. IT WAS MY FIRST FASHION SHOW IN THREE YEARS, AND TO HAVE THAT COMEBACK IN PARIS WAS A BIG DEAL AND A DREAM OF MINE FOR LONGER THAN I CAN REMEMBER.

MY BEAUTIFUL MUM JACKIE ALWAYS HAD CLASSIC STYLE; SHE WOULD TAKE SO MUCH PRIDE IN HOW SHE DRESSED. I ALWAYS REMEMBER HER LOUCHE TAILORING, WHICH INSPIRED MY STYLE EVOLUTION – AND FORMED THE DNA FOR MY BRAND.

I'M ALWAYS STRIVING TO CREATE WHAT I CAN'T ALREADY BUY. I'M EXCITED FOR PEOPLE TO TRY SOME OF THE NEW SILHOUETTES WE'VE DESIGNED FOR AW23. WE'RE CHALLENGING OURSELVES REGARDING NEW TECHNIQUES.

PHOTOGRAPHS: COURTESY OF VICTORIA BECKHAM, GETTY IMAGES, SHUTTERSTOCK, BEN LAC

ELLE SPORT
ELLE SPORT
SUMMER in PARIS
www.ellesport.co.uk | elleboutique.com | #parisiananywhere

ELLE® is a trademark owned by HACHETTE FILIPACCHI PRESSE, France.

BVLGARI.COM

BVLGARI
ROMA